FBIS
DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

22 DECEMBER 1980

American Hostages

"Final Reply"--Tehran radio broadcast the text of Iran's "final reply" on the hostage issue, calling for certain necessary "amendments" and "changes in procedural methods" to the earlier proposals outlined by the United States. The reply first said that the United States must pledge not to interfere in Iran's internal affairs "directly, indirectly, militarily or politically" but is not required officially to recognize Iran's government and revolution.

After listing frozen assets Iran wants to recover, the reply called on the United States to transfer $9 billion plus the Iranian gold it is currently holding to the Algerian Central Bank "prior to the release" of the hostages. As soon as the hostages are released, the reply went on, these assets will be handed over to Iran minus sums needed to pay Iranian debts and legal claims for which Iran will provide an initial cash guarantee of $1 billion.

In addition, the reply continued, the United States must also make a further guarantee equivalent of $4 billion for other unspecified Iranian assets and property in U.S. hands, give "necessary undertakings" to distinguish between claims against the Iranian "revolutionary movements" and against Iran's "Islamic Republic" and quickly make available to Iran a detailed list of Iranian assets within U.S. jurisdiction as well as a list of assets and property of the late shah and his relatives. The key point concerning the shah's assets, the reply said, is that the United States provide a "cash guarantee equivalent of $10 billion," or any other guarantee acceptable to Algeria, as a "percentage" of the shah's wealth that will be deposited in the Algerian Central Bank while the assets are being identified and transferred to Iran.

Nabavi Press Conference--Minister of State Behzad Nabavi told a press conference, reported by Tehran radio, that if the U.S. Government implements only part of Iran's conditions for the release of the hostages, "we will be forced to ask the Majlis for its views on the matters that have not been implemented." Nabavi said Prime Minister Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i's description of the hostage question as a "dead issue" has been "distorted" and that the meaning of Raja'i's statement is that "there is no point in our wasting time over it, so from our point of view it is over." Regarding the future of U.S.-Iranian relations, the minister of state said, "Our war with the United States will not be over following the return of the hostages."

According to an AFP report on the press conference, Nabavi said Iran will free the hostages 24 hours after the United States accepts the Iranian conditions but if the American replies are unsatisfactory, Iran can keep the hostages for 10 years. He also reiterated Iran's contention that the hostages are being well treated and fed and said they are living in good hotels.

Raja'i Comment--Following a 20 December meeting of the Supreme Defense Council, Prime Minister Raja'i told Tehran radio that his earlier statements that the hostages could be released quickly if the United States provided the appropriate guarantees have been "misconstrued by some people" to the effect that Iran has "forgone all conditions" and will be satisfied by one U.S. guarantee. "This is not so," Raja'i asserted. Noting that there are "no difficulties" with the noninterference condition and that the United States "should pay" money "owed to us," the prime minister admitted that the question of the late shah's assets is "not so clear" and that "there is no accurate information to be put forward concerning its amount." Therefore, he said, Iran has proposed that the U.S. Government place a guaranteed sum in the Algerian Central Bank to cover the shah's assets. Raja'i added that as long as the "smallest part" of these conditions remains unfulfilled "the hostages will not leave Iran."

Radio Comment--A strongly worded unattributed commentary on Tehran radio attacked the U.S. "deceitful game" over the hostages and said it is now the United States that must decide "whether to leave its Christmas tree unlit again next year or to take the correct steps to secure the release of the American spies."

Iran Domestic Affairs

Qotbzadeh Accusation--AFP reported that the religious fundamentalist newspaper AZADEGAN accused former Foreign Minister Sadeq Qotbzadeh of having been paid $1 million by the United States to secure the release of the American hostages. AFP said Qotbzadeh had earlier denied similar accusations against him by former Iranian Ambassador in Paris Amir Alai.

Demonstration Cancellation--An unattributed commentary on Tehran radio's Arabic service denied "rumors invented by colonialist circles" that Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni's cancellation of demonstrations last week was prompted by fear that clashes and even civil war might ensue. Only a "very small minority," the radio said, would have organized a "counterrevolutionary" demonstration against the "roaring masses."

Iran-USSR Bank Nationalization--Tehran radio reported that by the end of January 1981 Iran will have completely taken over the management of the Iran-USSR bank, which has been fully owned by the Soviet Union since inception. The radio stated that the decision followed two rounds of talks with a Soviet delegation and is in line with the Iranian Constitution and postrevolution legislation.

Nabavi on Parties, Disturbances--In his press conference reported by Tehran radio, Minister of State Nabavi said that although the Tudeh Party can freely act in Iran, the Supreme Council of Justice recently submitted a proposal to the government concerning the activities of political parties. He said the prime minister's office has divided political groups into those that support the republic and will be allowed, "favorable" groups whose views will be taken into consideration, "opposing" groups that will be permitted to operate under "certain circumstances" and "hostile" groups that will not be tolerated "under any circumstances

Nabavi went on to accuse Iraq of fomenting disturbances in Iranian schools and claimed that a recent statement by former Prime Minister Shahpur Bakhtiar has been used by "counter-revolutionary elements of the left and the right" to "create disorder in the schools."

Iran-Iraq Conflict

Fighting continued along most fronts, Tehran radio reported, with Iranian artillery shelling Iraqi positions around Dezful, Abadan and Khuninshahr (formerly Khorramshahr). Iranian ground forces clashed with Iraqi troops near Susangerd, Darkhovin, Gilan-e Gharb, Sumar, Zahab and Qasr-e Shirin, the radio went on, adding that 100 Iraqis were killed on the Bazideraz heights. Iranian Air Force planes were in action again, the radio said, hitting Iraqi targets at Panjwin. The Iraq General Command, in a communique carried by Baghdad radio's Voice of the Masses, reported Iraqi troops active around Susangerd, Abadan and Dezful with some casualties on both sides.

Lebanon

Damascus radio reported on 20 December that Syrian forces "intensively shelled" an Israeli tank concentration inside Lebanon in response to earlier alleged Israeli shelling that killed three Syrians. Jerusalem radio confirmed the Syrian shelling but reported that an Israeli Defense Force spokesman denied the presence of any Israeli tank concentration in southern Lebanon. In an interview with the radio's military correspondent, Israeli Deputy Defense Minister Mordekhay Tzipori described the death of the three Syrians as a "regrettable incident" and said Israel is "not interested in any confrontation with any of its neighbors"

but merely wishes to deal with Palestinian "terrorists." In another radio interview, the Israeli chief of staff, Refa'el Eytan, said that the Syrians were killed "because they were in the wrong place" and questioned what the Syrians were doing there anyway. Beirut radio reported continued shelling from both sides in the south and noted that Foreign Minister Fu'ad Butrus has instructed Lebanon's UN Security Council delegate Ghassan Tuwayni to lodge a complaint against Israel following its recent actions in Lebanon.

Egypt

Cairo radio reported that Deputy Prime Minister Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din has reaffirmed Egypt's refusal to permit the establishment of foreign bases on Egyptian soil and has insisted that U.S. installations set up for military exercises be dismantled following the termination of the exercises. Speaking to the People's Assembly, Dr Muhyi ad-Din said Egypt has refused U.S. and Israeli requests for U.S. use of Israeli-built airbases in the Sinai currently due to be handed over to Egypt.

YAR

In an interview with the UAE newspaper ASH-SHARIQAH AL-KHALIJ, Sultan Ahmad 'Umar, leader of the Yemeni National Democratic Front, confirmed earlier reports of fighting between his forces and YAR troops in the northern part of the country. The front leader said the government forces attacked his strongholds in an attempt to create internal unrest that eventually "would encourage forces hostile to our people to intervene in our internal affairs." Ahmad 'Umar stressed that talks between the government and the front are continuing and expressed the hope that they will solve the problems.

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CHEDLI KLIBI ISSUES STATEMENT ON ARAB TOUR

JN211017 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 0930 GMT 21 Dec 80

[Text] Amman, 21 Dec (PETRA)--Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi has issued the following statement on the contacts he has had with several Arab leaders:

Yesterday I completed a series of talks with several Arab leaders on the consolidation of Arab solidarity in implementation of the Arab summit's resolutions. I can now affirm that good spirits prevailed during these contacts, which covered Libya, Tunisia, Algeria, Saudi Arabia, the PDRY, Lebanon, Jordan, Iraq and the PLO leaders.

The following facts were made clear by these contacts:

1. The six countries that were absent from the Amman summit conference have no basic objection to the contents of the summit's resolutions and their absence had nothing to do with the summit's objectives or agenda.

2. All Arab leaders are in agreement that priority must be given to the consolidation of Arab solidarity, regardless of bilateral differences. They are determined to employ all of their potential to secure the continuation of joint Arab action.

3. All Arab leaders are convinced that it is necessary to remove joint Arab action from the influence of bilateral differences.

4. All Arab leaders agree that they must contribute to seeking appropriate ways for dealing with the current situation, with the objective of restoring the Arab front to the condition it was in following the Baghdad and Tunis summits.

The consultations I have held resulted in an agreement that a good offices committee be formed, whose task in the first stage will be to visit Arab capitals. The committee will comprise Saudi Arabia, Algeria, and the Arab League's secretariat general.

'ARAFAT IN GDR TO RECEIVE MEDICAL TREATMENT

NC210859 Paris AFP in English 0853 GMT 21 Dec 80

[Text] Beirut, 21 Dec (AFP)--Palestinian officials today confirmed that Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) leader Yasir 'Arafat arrived in East Berlin several days ago for an operation on a "discal hernia."

According to the Palestinian news agency WAFA, he will return to this Lebanese capital at the beginning of next year.

The PLO chief has suffered vertebrate problems for several weeks and has been wearing a neck brace. His doctors had advised him to take a rest from his activities, reliable Palestinian sources said.

'ARAFAT ON AMMAN SUMMIT, LEBANON, U.S. POLICY

LD191647 London AL-HAWADITH in Arabic 19 Dec 80 pp 20-38

[Interview granted by PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat--identified in interview by nom de guerre Abu 'Ammar--to Huda al-Husayni and Farid al-Khatib in Beirut--date not given]

[Excerpts] AL-HAWADITH: In an official message which As-Sadat sent to Carter he said that he considers East Jerusalem to be part of the West Bank and that his position on this is firm.

Abu 'Ammar: Allow me to tell you that you look at the matter from a viewpoint different from mine or you proceed from a premise different from the one I proceed from.

I proceed from the principle that everything that is based on something wrong is wrong itself and any attempt afterwards to show it differently is merely a cosmetic operation, no more and no less. Camp David is wrong; it is a conspiracy against the Egyptian people more than a conspiracy against the Palestinian people.

I know the kind of crime committed against the Egyptian people. I absolutely cannot understand how helping the Palestinian people can be a crime for which Egypt has to account to Israel. Do they expect the Egyptian people to accept this agreement?

Let us take, for example, Egyptian broadcasts and the recital of the Koran. The Camp David agreement stipulates that the Egyptians are banned from reciting anything from the Koran that refers to the Israelis and the Jews, and the broadcasting of such Koranic verses by Egyptian radio is also banned. Otherwise, it would be a violation of the Camp David agreement.

That is what the agreement provides for. I am only giving you an example of what "normalization" [of relations] means. Even some history and geography books in Egypt have been changed since the agreement.

So this agreement does not affect me alone. I have been able to resist it, which can be seen from the fact that all that has happened in the past 3 years and all the Israeli-U.S.-Egyptian attempts to impose the autonomy plot on our people, which is one of the outcomes of Camp David, have failed. I would like to say here that they will not succeed.

AL-HAWADITH: Southern Lebanon and the Palestinian revolution are in a predicament at present.

Abu 'Ammar: Predicament?

AL-HAWADITH: In danger. Is that not a predicament? The conspiracy is against you both.

Abu 'Ammar: Danger was never a predicament. Also I do not see that conspiracy is a predicament. When my enemies stop fighting me I must then revise my calculations. I do not see a predicament; I see danger.

From the first day I took up arms to fight I knew that the revolution was in danger. Thank God, I have not cheated my people or the Arab nation. I did not tell them that we are going to have breakfast in one place, then dinner in Tel Aviv. I have said no such thing. I said to them that a people's liberation war is a long-term thing. It begins with an old rifle or a rusty machinegun and a handgrenade tied to a string, and then develops into a revolution that everybody knows about, into the difficult and basic factor in the Middle East situation. I throw down a challenge. See: Carter has gone, and so has Brzezinski, who said to me "bye-bye PLO." Now I am saying goodbye to him.

I challenge Reagan, who will soon be on the scene, and I challenge the "watchdog" Begin and the "agent" As-Sadat if they believe that they can harm the Palestinians. I challenge them to harm the Palestinian revolution. We are the difficult factor in the Middle East situation. There will be no peace, or stability, or solution in this area if the Palestinian people's rights are ignored, including their right to return to self-determination, and to build an independent state on our national Palestinian soil.

AL-HAWADITH: Are you prepared to the implement Cairo agreement [with the Lebanese Government]?

Abu 'Ammar: We are implementing it. Tell me what provision we have violated.

AL-HAWADITH: There is the armed presence.

Abu 'Ammar: Where?

AL-HAWADITH: In the Lebanese areas and in the south.

Abu 'Ammar: In the south? According to the agreement....

AL-HAWADITH: There are specified areas in the south.

Abu 'Ammar: Who said? Are you telling me that I have exceeded my limits?

AL-HAWADITH: Does An-Nabatiyah [in southern Lebanon] fall within the Cairo agreement?

Abu 'Ammar: An-Nabatiyah is my command headquarters. Have you forgotten that I was once in the camp there when an Israeli raid took place, as a result of which the camp was wiped out? I was in the camp. An-Nabatiyah is my command headquarters according to the agreement--my command headquarters as commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces.

Suffice it to say that the four-man committee set up by the Riyadh and Cairo summits said that the Palestinian revolution fulfilled 97 percent of its obligations.

AL-HAWADITH: But how can victory be achieved within this formula?

Abu 'Ammar: First of all matters should not be viewed this way. There is a fierce battle going on between us and the enemy, and the enemy is throwing all his weight into it. Unfortunately he is able to do so because of the Arab situation; all his military forces are almost free and therefore all his military activity is concentrated against us.

Begin said "we will fight them even with devilish means," and General Eytan said that "the war between the two sides will end only when one of the sides is finished."

Israel is using its forces against us in southern Lebanon, against the joint Lebanese-Palestinian forces, against towns and villages, and against the Palestinian camps. It is using all means of destruction in the air, on land, and at sea. In the past 2 months the Israeli Army has carried out 3 major operations in an attempt to occupy our positions, the Ash-Shuqayf and Arnun operation, the Ar-Rayhan and Al-'Ayshiyah operation, and the Ad-Damur and As-Sa'diyat operation. This is in addition to the air operations. On my way here I received a report about a naval clash in Tyre. These operations take place within sight and earshot of the U.S. 6th Fleet; this naval piracy takes place within the sight and earshot of the 6th Fleet, which includes aircraft carriers, and these operations take place under their protection.

In liberation wars it is not material power that is decisive.

Our children in the West Bank today have turned stones into bombs. The Israeli Government has been forced to enact a law stipulating that whoever shouts for the PLO, whoever sings Palestinian songs, and whoever raises a Palestinian flag will go to jail.

Therefore, the matter is not measured by material strength. I would like to tell you another important thing, namely that my fight is on the upswing while their fight is on the downswing. An armed garrison alone is not enough. It was said last month that the number of people emigrating from Israel is greater than the number immigrating to the country.

Some time ago I announced a general mobilization, which they call military conscription. The U.S. administrative protested against it. My goodness, in all the inflamed Middle East the U.S. administration saw only the Palestinian mobilization.

In fact I would be unfair to my people if I said conscription. It is a flow of volunteers. Because of this flow of volunteers I am no longer able to "cope with" [providing] equipment, training, or arms. The two men that fell martyrs in the As-Sa'diyat operation were engineers. This is strength. The legs of [Nabulus mayor] Bassam ash-Shak'ah and [Ramallah mayor] Karim Khalaf [injured in explosions] are firm on the ground. They are strength. There are in Israeli jails and detention centers 44,000 Palestinians imprisoned or detained pending investigation, including 2,000 women and young girls. This is out of 1.7 million Palestinians under occupation. Twenty-four thousand prisoners! [figure as published] This is the highest percentage of prisoners in the world.

AL-HAWADITH: The PLO came into being at the first Arab summit in 1964 but was absent from the recent Arab summit. Do you not think that this absence is regarded as a retreat from its position in relation to official Arab action?

Abu 'Ammar: As I have said before the decisions approved by the foreign ministers were endorsed in our absence--at a time when I was making a tour with some of my brethren in an attempt to postpone the conference.

AL-HAWADITH: What was the reason you wanted to postpone the conference?

Abu 'Ammar: To effect a conciliation so that everybody would come.

AL-HAWADITH: Did you expect your efforts to succeed within the 2 weeks you asked for?

Abu 'Ammar: Of course, of course. I had an agreement with them on the subject. Do you want me to divulge a secret to you? The agreement was as follows: I had received the approval of many Arab countries for a postponement of the conference, but unfortunately on Friday night everything changed. I do not know why. I would like you to reread the [PLO] Executive Committee statement because it contains the truth. There was talk of consultations. But no consultations should be carried out without Abu al-Lutf [Faruq Qaddumi] head of the PLO Political Department, because he is the chairman of the current session. The Palestinians are the chairmen of the session this year. Therefore any consultations in his [Qaddumi's] absence are not valid. Also, how could consultations proceed while the chairman of the PLO Executive Committee was flying from one country to another? At least they should have waited to see what I could do. Is that not so? Afterwards I launched a Palestinian initiative to postpone the summit for 2 weeks, and then a Palestinian-Algerian initiative together with a joint message from myself and President Chadli Bendjedid. Also Abu al-Lutf and [Algerian foreign minister] Mohamed Ben Yahia were charged with meeting King Husayn in order to discuss the request for a postponement, but there was no response.

AL-HAWADITH: Has the Iranian Islamic revolution delayed a settlement in the area, and will it make such a settlement more just in the future?

Abu 'Ammar: It was one of the factors that ruined the U.S.-Israeli-As-Sadat plan. This is because the Camp David stood on three legs--Israel, As-Sadat, and the shah--but now one of the legs has collapsed, and all the calculations in the area have been upset. This was a historic event.

AL-HAWADITH: Will it make the settlement more just?

Abu 'Ammar: Of course, I hope so. But this depends on many things. It depends on the outcome of the Iraqi-Iranian war and on the attitude of the Iranian revolution toward certain issues. But there is no doubt that, whether we like it or not, the Iranian revolution has caused a strategic change in the area.

AL-HAWADITH: In whose favor?

Abu 'Ammar: There is no doubt. In our favor.

AL-HAWADITH: You said that Iran's attitude depends on the outcome of the Iraq-Iran war. Iran's attitude once the revolution is over, of course?

Abu 'Ammar: I was not surprised by the war. This is a secret I am telling you. For more than a year I tried to solve the problems so as to ease the Iraqi-Iranian tension; Palestinian messengers traveled between Baghdad and Tehran to ease the tension, but unfortunately we did not succeed. I was expecting this tension to develop into war, as has happened today.

AL-HAWADITH: Supposing the war continues?

Abu 'Ammar: The war will not continue.

AL-HAWADITH: You mean that the result is in your hands?

Abu 'Ammar: No, it is not in my hands.

AL-HAWADITH: At least you know what results will be.

Abu 'Ammar: In my estimation a certain solution will, God willing, be found.

AL-HAWADITH: Why shouldn't the war continue?

Abu 'Ammar: Because it is against both countries, against us, and against the area as a whole. Therefore it should not continue and we shall exert all our efforts in order to stop it.

AL-HAWADITH: A few months before the U.S. elections one of your advisers submitted a report saying that Reagan was likely to win against Carter. Did you take note of this report then and how will you be dealing with the new U.S. administration?

Abu 'Ammar: First, we did expect Carter to fail. The report is true. I do not know who told you about it. This is a scoop. I did not receive just one report, but several. We understand the policies of one superpower or both superpowers--the Soviet Union and the United States. A powerful president has no more than a 25 percent say in a decision and a weak president has 15 percent. The policies of big powers, particularly these two superpowers, are not shaped by the advent or departure of a president.

Who brought the Likud Party in Israel to power? It was the United States, U.S. intelligence. It is always said that there is an Israeli lobby in the United States, but I say that there is a U.S. lobby in Israel. I give you a simple example.

How did the Likud Party come to power? When the Labor Party split Yadin left and formed the dash [presumably DMC] party, taking with him 16 deputies. The Labor Party was left with 33 votes. Therefore if the Labor Party had not split it would have had 49 votes against 42 [for likud] and would have formed the government.

AL-HAWADITH: Supposing that you find an attentive ear in Reagan, as Begin does, what will you tell him?

Abu 'Ammar: Unfortunately there is no such attentive ear and there will never be. I am not asking Reagan for anything, because rights are not demanded but taken.

AL-HAWADITH: How would you explain your cause to the U.S. public opinion at the beginning the Reagan era?

Abu 'Ammar: I have stopped addressing American public opinion. This is evident in the fact that this year we received invitation from three church associations from Georgia, Washington, and New York.

AL-HAWADITH: It has been said that your meeting with Kuznetsov [first deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium] in Damascus was not only for the sake of Syria and Jordan but also to promote a return by the Soviets to the area.

Abu 'Ammar: I discussed Soviet-Palestinian relations and developments with Comrade Kuznetsov, exactly as stated in the joint statement.

AL-HAWADITH: Some Western sources say that the PLO intends to sign a treaty with Moscow similar to the Syrian-Soviet treaty. Can such a treaty be signed when no land [for the PLO] exists.

Abu 'Ammar: A treaty between us and the Soviets? We are not contemplating signing a Palestinian-Soviet treaty. We are not a state able to sign a treaty such as usually concluded between states. We are a revolution.

'SATISFACTION' WITH REAGAN POSITIONS EXPRESSED

NC200709 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0619 GMT 20 Dec 80

[Text] Cairo, 20 Dec (MENA)--The committee formed by the People's Assembly to study and prepare the reply to the government statement has expressed its satisfaction with the statements of the new U.S. administration regarding its decision to continue shouldering its responsibility as a third partner [in the peace process] and to support the issue of peace within the framework of the Camp David accords and the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty. In its report on the reply to the government statement, extracts of which were published by the AKHBAR AL-YAWM newspaper today, the committee says that it has studied with satisfaction the development of the economic and technological relations and military aid between Egypt and the United States.

NEW YORK MAYOR MEETS AS-SADAT, ATTENDS BANQUET

As-Sadat Meeting

NC201011 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 20 Dec 80

[Text] This morning, President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat received New York Mayor Edward Koch and the accompanying delegation who are currently visiting the Arab Republic of Egypt. Cairo Mayor Sa'd Ma'mun attended the meeting.

Alexandria Banquet

NC210949 Cairo MENA in English 0920 GMT 21 Dec 80

[Text] Alexandria, 21 Dec (MENA)--The mayor of New York, Edward Koch, stressed that U.S. President-elect Ronald Reagan is fully convinced that the Camp David accords constitute the proper base for the achievement of peace in the Middle East area. Speaking at a dinner party given in his honor by the governor of Alexandria, Dr Na'im Abu Talib, last night, the mayor of New York said that Reagan appreciates the policy of President as-Sadat who enjoys high popularity in the United States and other countries of the world. Mr Koch said that he noticed during his visit to Egypt that the Egyptians support President as-Sadat and held him in great esteem.

The governor of Alexandria discussed with the mayor of New York over the dinner ways and means for cooperation between the two cities in the various fields. The mayor of New York expressed his country's readiness to contribute towards the implementation of joint ventures with the Egyptian side in the fields of development, transport, tourism and food security.

The mayor of New York and his accompanying delegation left here this morning for El Alamein area to visit the tombs of those killed in the Second World War as well as the military museum there before returning to Cairo. He had started his visit to Egypt last Thursday.

AD-DIN REPORTS NO U.S. BASES IN EGYPT, SINAI

NC210708 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 21 Dec 80

[Text] Deputy Prime Minister Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din has affirmed Egypt's definite refusal to allow the establishment of any foreign bases on its soil. Dr Muhyi made these important statements in the Peoples' Assembly yesterday, saying that Egypt had refused a U.S. request--and another request by the Israelis--to allow the U.S. forces to use the two airports built by Israel in the Sinai. These airports are due to be handed over to Egypt before April 1982. Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din explained that Egypt will neither grant facilities nor establish joint projects in the Sinai with any party since Sinai has a special status. This has been reiterated by President as-Sadat before.

Concerning the joint exercises [with the U.S. forces], Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din said that the Egyptian Government insists that the installations put up for these exercises be dismantled as soon as the exercises are over and that they be shipped back to Europe or the United States.

The deputy prime minister explained that the facilities granted by Egypt to the U.S. F-5 planes were for the purpose of defending Mecca, Medina and the holy lands. Saudi Arabia has agreed to this step following the perilous situation along its borders.

The deputy prime minister noted that a similar situation exists in Ra's Banas--where the installations that are being built will be dismantled as soon as the exercises are over; which means that these installations are temporary and that they will be dismantled as soon as the joint exercises are concluded. Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din affirmed that there are no U.S. bases on Egypt's soil and that none will be set up.

The deputy prime minister affirmed Egypt's full interest in a real Arab unity--far away from slogans, oneupmanship and the war of the microphones. He added that Egypt is still adhering to the peace process and the national and legitimate rights of the Palestinian people.

'ALI EXPLAINS FACILITIES AT RA'S BANAS BASE

NC211640 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 21 Dec 80

[Text] Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali today declared that Ra's Banas base is an Egyptian air and naval base which has been constructed to be used by the Egyptian Armed Forces for internal and external purposes. 'Ali said that when the balance of power in the Middle East was disturbed in favor of the Soviet Union, particularly since the invasion of Afghanistan, and against the interests of Egypt and the states in the area, Egypt deemed it necessary to restore the balance in the region by giving facilities to the United States. The deputy prime minister explained that in view of the fact that the naval forces in the Western states, particularly in the United States, use deep-draft ships, it was necessary to adjust the depth of the water in Ra's Banas. He stressed that granting facilities does not mean that Egypt will lose its sovereignty of an inch of its territory. He said that the use of the base is conditional to a specific time, specific period and a specific event.

'ALI EXPLAINS FOREIGN POLICY TO CONSULTATIVE COUNCIL

NC211620 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 21 Dec 80

[Text] Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali has stated that Egypt is really sorry for the current state of affairs in the Arab homeland. In a statement he made this afternoon at the Consultative Council's Arab Affairs Committee, 'Ali said: The differences among the Arabs are differences among members of the same family. We sincerely hope that Arab amity will be restored to safeguard the sublime interests of the Arab people. He added that Egypt calls on the Arab states to deal with their problems and their relations with wisdom, deliberation and farsightedness and to discard political disagreements and vituperations which entrench division and keep them in a state of economic and cultural backwardness. The deputy prime minister and foreign minister expressed the hope that next year would be the year of an Arab dialogue based on logic and strength, and the year of Arab accord and amity. He emphasized that Egypt, as President as-Sadat put it, is prepared to extend its hand to any hand extended to Egypt for cooperation to solve the political, economic and social issues in a manner serving the welfare of the Arab homeland, from the ocean to the Gulf.

'Ali stressed that in its foreign policy Egypt is committed to work for the achievement of international peace and the bolstering of cooperation among all states for the sake of man's prosperity. In this, he added, Egypt adheres to international legitimacy and to solving all problems by peaceful methods. He emphasized that Egypt adheres to ethics in its international dealings and that it does not conclude secret agreements. He further stressed that Egypt does not believe in the use of force except in legitimate self-defense or as a means for the legitimate national liberation. He added: A just peace needs a force to protect it. Therefore, Egypt is keen to keep its armed forces strong and lofty in order to defend the national soil and security of the fraternal Arab states which are linked to us by the joint defense treaty. It is on this basis that Egypt has agreed to grant military facilities and not bases to the United States if the security of these states is exposed to danger.

Speaking about Egypt's efforts for the sake of the Palestinian question, the deputy prime minister and foreign minister said: The autonomy negotiations have not achieved the aspired progress because of the Israeli Government's stands. Therefore, Egypt has called for the convocation of a tripartite summit embracing President as-Sadat, the U.S. president and the Israeli prime minister in order to push the negotiations toward their aspired aim. His excellency reaffirmed that Egypt does not speak for or make decisions on behalf of the Palestinians, but that it seeks to put them at the beginning of the right path which would enable them to determine their future according to their own will and legitimate rights. He also stressed that Egypt insists on the implementation of the Camp David agreements and the peace treaty in letter and spirit.

His excellency also referred to Egypt's commitment to the policy of the nonaligned movement saying: Egypt calls for cooperation among all states on the basis of mutual respect and joint interests. Egypt calls for and requests an end to the Gulf war between two Islamic states. Egypt rejects the attempts at hegemony or at imposing alien systems which do not conform with the religious and heavenly values.

He stressed that Egypt condemns all forms of hegemony and foreign interference in the affairs of states and that Egypt feels worried about the Soviet interference and infiltration in the sensitive area surrounding it. Furthermore, it feels worried about the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan, which is considered a serious precedent because it violates the sovereignty of a peaceful Muslim people. Moreover, this invasion might bring the area directly into the cold war and conflict between the two blocs.

His excellency praised the good relations linking Egypt with a number of socialist states, such as the [People's] Republic of China, North Korea and Romania. He also praised the relations linking Egypt with the United States, the EEC and African states. He emphasized that Egypt rejects, with all strength, the Libyan military intervention in Chad saying: Africa is capable of checking the Libyan attack against Chad and Egypt will spare no efforts to achieve this aim.

Concluding his statement, 'Ali praised President Carter's role in laying down the necessary foundation to consolidate the pillars of just and durable peace in the Middle East. He said that the contacts which Husni Mubarak has held snow that the new U.S. administration will remain committed to the Camp David agreement and that it will not introduce any new additions without the approval of Egypt and Israel. 'Ali said that he was confident that the United States will continue its role as full partner in the peace process.

Normalization, Arab League

NC211949 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 21 Dec 80

[Excerpt] Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali has stated that the normalization of relations with Israel is proceeding gradually and that this is something normal. However, 'Ali explained that the normalization might be automatically affected by Israel's intransigent stands on full Palestinian autonomy because the question of Palestine is the core of the dispute. In statements he made at the People's Assembly today in answer to questions by assembly members, 'Ali pointed out that even if the government is committed to all the provisions of the Egyptian-Israeli agreement, this agreement does not compel the Egyptian people, for example, to visit Israel.

Regarding the question of the Arab League, 'Ali explained that after the withdrawal of the Arab states from this organization, it was inevitable to charge the Egyptian foreign minister with everything connected with the administrative, technical and financial affairs of the league. This permits Egypt to supervise all the organizations emanating from this league. He said that there was no contradiction between the Arab League states and the League of Islamic and Arab Peoples. The first concerns the governments; the second concerns the people.

GHALI COMMENTS ON NDP DELEGATION VISIT TO ISRAEL

NC220936 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0842 GMT 22 Dec 80

[Excerpts] Cairo, 22 Dec (MENA)--Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali has stated that the National Democratic Party [NDP] delegation that visited recently Israel found the Israeli Labor Party highly understanding, indicating that positive results would be achieved if the Labor Party assumed power. Even if it did not assume power, he said, the Labor Party can play a positive role in the opposition. In a statement to AL-JUMHURIYAH published today, Dr Ghali says that the Israeli Labor Party's concept of Palestinian autonomy is completely different from that of Begin's. He adds that while Begin's party sees full autonomy as administrative rule or decentralized administration, the Labor Party sees it as a transitional phase during which the Palestinian people can determine their own fate, although the party is thinking about a special framework for that.

Dr Ghali says that reports about an Arab initiative to settle the Mideast problem are unfounded. He adds: "Should the Arab states come up with any alternative to Camp David, we would study it with interest. We do not claim to monopolize the settlement of the problem, nor do we want to."

Referring to Israeli Prime Minister Begin's recent statements in which he completely rejects the ideas of withdrawal and of a Palestinian state, Dr Ghali says: We should not pay more attention to such statements than necessary because similar statements were made before the peace treaty, but the Israeli side later backed down from them.

IRANIAN PAPER CITED ON 'ATTEMPTED COUP' PLAN

JN211728 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1600 GMT 21 Dec 80

[Text] It has been revealed in Tehran that some opposition forces planned an attempted coup to overthrow the racist Persian regime in Iran. The so-called ISLAMIC REVOLUTION newspaper described this attempt as being very accurately planned. The newspaper said that these forces had planned to carry out the coup during the marches that were scheduled for last Thursday. The newspaper added that the Khomeyni guards had decided to organize these marches following the insults against Khomeyni, whose pictures were torn up in several Iranian cities. Khomeyni, however, ordered the cancellation of these marches for fear that they would turn against him.

MILITARY COMMAND ISSUES COMMUNIQUES 19-21 DEC

Communique No 184

JN191728 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1702 GMT 19 Dec 80

[Communique No 184 issued by Iraqi Armed Forces General Command on 19 December 1980]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate:

Following are the results of our armed forces' activities last night and today in the various operations sectors:

I. Ground Forces:

A. Known enemy losses:

1. Personnel: Three were killed in the Dezful sector, two in the Khafajiyeh [Susangerd] region and six in the Abadan region. This makes the enemy losses in personnel 11 killed.

2. Equipment:

a. One tank and three vehicles were destroyed.
b. Our units discovered a (Strella) rocket launcher and three wireless devices in the Sar-e Pol-e Zahab region left behind by the enemy during previous battles. All are serviceable.

B. Our losses:

1. Personnel: 14 martyrs in all sectors.

2. Equipment: One tank, five troop carriers, two vehicles and one excavator were damaged.

II. The air forces:

Enemy planes today raided civilian targets and residential areas. Our air defenses intercepted the enemy planes, downing a number of them:

A. At 1010, enemy planes raided the At-Ta'mim Governorate attempting to hit civilian installations and residential quarters. Our fighter planes intercepted them, downing two enemy planes in a dogfight. The rest withdrew.

Our losses: Six martyred and eight wounded in Dibs, all civilians. One child was wounded and a citizen's house was destroyed in Kurkik.

B. At 1450 enemy planes tried to raid Panjwin village in the As-Sulaymaniyah Governorate. Our ground defenses intercepted them, downing one plane. This makes the number of enemy losses in planes three.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 19 December 1980.

Communique No 185

JN201730 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1705 GMT 20 Dec 80

[Communique No 185 issued by Iraqi Armed Forces General Command on 20 December 1980]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

Our valiant armed forces continue to strike and destroy the enemy remnants' desperate attempts to attack our advanced units' positions, inflicting on them heavy losses in equipment and personnel. Following are the results of our forces' activities last night and today:

I. Known enemy losses:

A. Personnel:

1. At 0700 yesterday, 19 December 1980, the enemy remnants attacked one of our advanced forces' positions in the Sar-e Pol-e Zahab basin. Our units confronted them and engaged them in a battle that lasted all day yesterday and throughout the night. Skirmishes continue between the two sides. During this battle, the tyrannical enemy sustained heavy losses in lives. These losses exceeded 200 killed and wounded up to the time this communique was prepared.

2. A group of enemy troops was sighted last night moving in front of our advanced forces' positions in the Sayf Sa'd region. Our units confronted it and forced it to flee, leaving behind 12 killed.

3. Six were killed in the Dezful sector.

4. Three were killed in the Khafajiyeh [Susangerd] region.

5. Fifteen were killed in the Abadan region. This brings the total number of known enemy losses in personnel to over 236 killed or wounded.

B. Equipment:

1. The following equipment was destroyed: Five vehicles, one carrying hardware and another personnel; one rocket launcher; one steamshovel. In addition, one boat was sunk in Shatt al-'Arab near Al-Faw.

2. A large oil storage tank was destroyed and set ablaze in Abadan.

3. An enemy Phantom plane tried to raid our units in Mehran region. Our anti-aircraft ground fire intercepted it and shot it down.

II. Our losses:

A. Personnel: 38 martyrs in all sectors.

B. Equipment: The following equipment was damaged: seven tanks, three personnel carriers, four guns of various calibers and one rocket launcher.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 20 December 1980.

Communique No 186

JN211718 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1702 GMT 21 Dec 80

[Communique No 186 issued by the Iraqi Armed Forces General Command on 21 December 1980]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate:

With strong belief in our just rights, our armed forces continue to carry out their activities in the operations sectors. Following are the results of our armed forces' activities yesterday evening and today:

I. Known enemy losses:

A. In personnel:

1. One of our combat units clashed with an enemy patrol in the Dezful sector last night. Our unit managed to kill 21 and forced the rest to flee.

2. One was killed in the Khafajiyeh [Susangerd] region.

3. Four were killed in the Abadan region. This brings the enemy's losses in personnel to 26 killed.

B. In equipment: The following were destroyed: two guns, one bulldozer, two observation posts and one stockpile.

C. One enemy fighter plane was shot down by our ground defenses when it attemped to raid our units in the Sayf Sa'd region yesterday afternoon.

II. Our losses:

A. In personnel: 19 martyrs in the various sectors.

B. In equipment: The following equipment was damaged: four troop carriers, four vehicles and three guns of various calibers.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 21 December 1980.

IRAN'S RENEWED ISLAND CLAIM 'CREATING TENSION'

JN211156 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0840 GMT 21 Dec 80

[Excerpts] Baghdad, 21 Dec (INA)--ATH-THAWRAH comments on the statement made by one of the leaders of the Khomeyni regime that Iran considers all islands in the Arab Gulf to be Iranian. In a comment today, the paper says: This new stand confirms Iran's expansionist policy and hostile ambitions in the Arab Gulf. It also confirms that the Persian racists are determined to threaten the security and undermine the independence and sovereignty of the Arab Gulf countries, contrary to the slogans voiced by the Tehran rulers and the justifications made for them by their Damascus and Tripoli allies, to the effect that the Khomeyni regime is progressive and different from the former Shah's regime, that it is the ally of the Arabs and that it and the Arab nation have common interests.

ATH-THAWRAH says that the Tehran rulers' announcement is actually a reaction to the UAE Government's demand for the return of the three Arab islands and its appeal to the United Nations and the international community to persuade Iran to enter into negotiations, to reach a peaceful solution to this question.

The paper adds: Iran's proclamation of its expansionist ambitions in such an impudent manner constitutes a threat not only to Gulf and Arab nation security, but also to world security and interests. When the Tehran rulers contemplate aggression against any Arab territory or island in the Arab Gulf, they are in fact creating tension, widening the conflict and prompting intervention by imperialist forces and fleets in the Arab Gulf and Arabian Sea, who hope to play the role of policeman, to undermine the Gulf's security and to interfere in its affairs.

ATH-THAWRAH concludes: We would like to ask Tehran's allies, especially those in Damascus and Libya, if they heard this new announcement over Tehran radio and still support Iran's aggressive logic and oppose the return of the islands, and if they are for the Arabs and Arabism or for the Persians and Persianism.

KING INTERVIEWED BY MONDAY MORNING MAGAZINE

JN211802 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 21 Dec 80

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn has said that after Egypt's exit from the Arab arena, the Arab nation had big hopes in achieving Arab solidarity. The principles of solidarity were laid down at the Baghdad summit conference, which gathered the Arabs together in order to work for the attainment of Arab solidarity and in the service of the joint Arab objectives. The Tunis and Amman summit conferences were held to confirm this trend.

In a statement to MONDAY MORNING magazine, to be published in Beirut tomorrow, his majesty added: There is no logical and real justification for the deterioration of Jordanian-Syrian relations. There is no justification for the Syrian allegations against this country or for the casting of doubts on Jordan's stand with regard to serving the Palestinian issue, working for the restoration of the Palestinian rights on the Palestinian soil and Jordan's commitment to supporting the PLO, the Palestinian people's sole legitimate representative. He added: There might be other reasons which have led to deviation from the previous policies and trends in Syria, something which may result in polarizing stands in our region in a manner that will affect the nature of the Arab-Israeli dispute, in addition to the dangers such a development poses in regard to threatening the Arab nation and this nation's entity, will and future.

His majesty said: I was greatly pained to see two Arab armies, which are standing in front of the common enemy along the occupied Arab territores' borders, enter a possible confrontation between them. I was also pained by this stand on the part of the Syrian leadership because in the last few years, I worked honestly and sincerely to develop our Jordanian-Syrian relations to an unprecedented stage aimed at serving our destiny and common interests. His majesty added: Even though we welcomed the relaxation of the possibility of confrontation between the two countries, the confidence and intentions--which have worsened for some time between the two countries--have dissipated as a result of this bitter experience in relations. This, of course, does not reflect the spirit of fraternity between the Jordanian and Syrian peoples, who have nothing to do with what the two countries' relations have become.

On the Iraqi-Iranian war, his majesty said: If Arab unanimity in support of fraternal Iraq to restore its inalienable historic rights had been there, as it should have been, Iran would have realized that it is in its interest, as well as in the interest of Iraq, to reach an agreement between the two sides based on mutual respect and good neighborliness, something which lays down sound beginnings for Iran's relations with the Arab states. It is regrettable that some Arab leaderships have preferred not to support fraternal Iraq, something which led to the exacerbation of the dispute, the continuation of war and the expansion of schisms in the Arab world.

During the interview, His Majesty King Husayn stressed that the Camp David accords have ended wuth failure and have also become part of the past. He said that these accords have not helped, will not help and cannot help achieve a just and lasting peace in the Middle East. He expressed the hope that the new U.S. administration will not be a captive of these accords but will try to deal with problems in a different style based on the principles of right and justice. His majesty reaffirmed Jordan's support for the PLO and that Jordan will continue dialogue, consultations and cooperation with it.

LACK OF RESPONSE TO 'ISRAELI AGGRESSION' DENOUNCED

JN201046 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 20 Dec 80

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the leadline "The Camp David Process Will Not Apply to Lebanon," AR-RA'Y says: Israeli aggression against Lebanon has become a nearly daily phenomenon, just as the complaints lodged with the UN Security Council have become a useless and routine matter.

The strange thing is that this aggression has not prompted any Arab reaction, particularly from the Syrian regime, which is always boasting that it holds the big stick in Lebanon. It should wield this stick against the Israeli aggressors, which is the least expected of it. It seems that this regime is using its stick in Lebanon for other goals, which have no bearing on Lebanon's safety and security, just as it is acting to strengthen itself in Syria.

Similarly, Washington's attitude of indifference on this aggression adds to the U.S. administration's responsibility, particularly as weapons that the United States supplied Israel are being used against Lebanon.

It is also of note that the mere sympathy and concern expressed by the European states about this aggression is not sufficient, for if the aggression continues it will only further complicate the situation in the area and further impede the forthcoming European initiative.

The Israeli aggressors' persistence in violating Lebanon's sovereignty implies that they want to apply the Camp David process to Lebanon. It is obvious that their efforts will be fruitless. The new U.S. administration would do well to understand this right from the outset, so as not to be held responsible for the mistakes committed and the stands adopted by the current U.S. administration toward Lebanon and the cause.

In conclusion, AR-RA'Y says: In all honesty we must say that the Camp David process cannot apply to Lebanon. We hope that those holding the big stick there will face up to their responsibility, if they are indeed honest.

AL-AKHBAR VIEWS JORDANIAN-PALESTINIAN COOPERATION

JN210945 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 21 Dec 80

[From the press review]

[Text] AL-AKHBAR comments today on Jordanian-Palestinian cooperation, in light of the meeting of the joint Jordanian-Palestinian committee on support of our people's steadfastness. The paper says: These meetings, in themselves, express Jordan's firm commitment to our people's steadfastness against occupation and to the PLO's role as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. These meetings also express the Palestinians' belief in Jordan's pan-Arab role in the Palestine question and toward the Palestinian people and the PLO.

Our continued support for our people's steadfastness in the occupied territories is in implementation of the Amman summit resolutions, which gave special attention to the Palestine cause and kept it free of all of the differences fabricated by those Arab states that failed to pay their financial aid to support the Palestinians, who are daily defying the enemy and setting an excellent example of courage, sacrifice and fighting.

The paper adds: Jordanian-Palestinian cooperation will continue not only in this field, but in all fields of struggle against the Israeli enemy and against anyone who tries to liquidate the Palestine cause and disregard the Palestinians' rights.

Jordan's participation in the Jerusalem committee meetings, which will start in Morocco tomorrow, is also based on Jordan's pan-Arab commitment to defense of the Palestine cause and to support of the joint Arab march in all fields, in order to liberate the holy city, end the Zionist occupation and enable the Palestinian people to exercise their legitimate rights on their soil and to determine their own future, under the PLO's leadership.

SYRIANS SHELL ZAHLAH; FATAH UNITS ACTIVE

NC211611 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1515 GMT 21 Dec 80

[Text] The city of Zahlah is still being subjected to violent Syrian artillery shelling that was focused on the main street and the suburbs of (Mar Nicola), (Dhur al-Himar), (Hawsh al-'Umara') and (Hawsh az-Zara'inah). The shelling is continuing despite the fact that the commander of Zahlah company Lt Col (Rafiq Figali) contacted the Arab Deterrent Forces [ADF] command and asked that the shelling of the town be stopped.

It has been learned that a delegation comprised of Zahlah functionaries left a little while ago for Shtawrah to meet with ADF command officials.

Our correspondent in Zahlah has stated that the city is being surrounded by Fatah elements, its forces are concentrated in (Ksara) location, by elements belonging to fugitive Lt Ahmad al-Khatib, which are deployed between (Ksara) and Sa'd Mayil), by Syrian [social] nationalist party elements who set up road blocks in the town of (?Karak), as well as by Syrian forces in the area.

The meeting held by Zahlah bishops and functionaries at the Zahlah Governorate building ended a little while ago. The conferees decided that they do not want to initiate battles with anyone but that they desire to solve all issues peacefully.

At the same time the conferees warned against a scheme to which the Al-Biqa' capital is being subjected in order to subjugate it. The bishops conducted contacts with Papal Nuncio Caplo Furno and briefed him on the explosive situation in the city, appealing to him to quickly intercede to stop the deterioration.

While contacts were under way, 30 tank and 130mm field artillery shells fell on the (Boulevard) (Hawsh al-'Umara') and (Al-Mu'allaqag) and on the area near (Talshihah) hospital.

Reports from our correspondents in Zahlah say that violent clashes are raging in (Hawsh al-'Umara'), (Al-Mu'allaqah) and (Al-Hammar) between the Syrian deterrent forces and the inhabitants. Heavy and medium weapons were used in the battles.

Reports say two people in Zahlah were injured during the shelling as well as several ADF soldiers were injured.

So far the results of the shelling and losses in lives and property are not known.

Our correspondent in Zahlah said that Syrian helicopters some time ago overflew (Hawsh al-'Umara') and then landed in the industrial center of the city near the eggs cooperatives where they landed a number of commandos.

Earlier in the morning ADF forces and vehicles surrounded the city and closed the approaches to it. In the afternoon the Syrians aggravated the situation in the city in a violent and grave way.

Syrian intelligence chief in Lebanon Col Muhammad Ghanim chaired a military meeting in Shtawra during which the situation in the area was discussed. At the meeting it was also decided to shell Zahlah despite all attempts made by the quarters concerned in the city to ease the situation.

Within the same context Palestinian activities were intensified. Fatah leader Abu Ahmad Isma'il chaired a meeting of a number of Fatah leaders including Abu at-Tayyib, Fatah's military official in charge.

It has also been learned that Syrian trucks carried Palestinian gunmen to Shtawra and Judaydah early this morning and Syrian special forces crossed the Lebanese-Syrian border at Al-Masna' toward Shtawra.

Phalangists, Sham'un Meet

NC211757 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1715 GMT 21 Dec 80

[Text] A meeting is currently being held at the Phalangist military command attended by [former] President Camille Sham'un, Shaykh Pierre al-Jumayyil, Shaykh Bashir al-Jumayyil, Abbot Bulus Nu'man, (Dr Eli Karamah) and some members of the command council to discuss the deteriorating security situation in Zahlah in the light of the intensive Syrian shelling of the city and the siege thrown around it by Palestinian and leftist elements.

The Lebanese forces command is scheduled to hold an emergency meeting shortly to decide the measures which must be taken to tackle the situation in the city.

Emergency Meeting Held

NC212110 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 2015 GMT 21 Dec 80

[21 December statement by the official spokesman of the Lebanese forces command--read by announcer]

[Text] The Lebanese forces command council held an emergency meeting at 1930 today at its headquarters under the chairmanship of Shaykh Bashir al-Jumayyil; present were council members, members of the general staff and the commanders of the various corps and sectors.

The chairman of the command council and commander in chief of the Lebanese Armed Forces presented the directives supplied to him by [former] President Camille Sham'un and Shaykh Pierre al-Jumayyil and reviewed the recent developments and the sudden deterioration of the security situation in Zahlah and its suburbs from the military, political, social and supply standpoints. After the Syrian occupation forces around Zahlah shelled the various peaceful quarters of the city with various heavy weapons, including long-range field artillery, rocket launchers and mortars.

Shaykh Bashir al-Jumayyil informed the command of the moves taken today by the Lebanese forces offices abroad.

The Lebanese forces command council adopted the following decisions and measures:

1. To place all its resources at the disposal of the residents of Zahlah to confront this new Syrian aggression.

2. To prepare an urgent complaint to be submitted to the UN Security Council and the UN secretary general based on UN Security Council Resolution No 436, dated 6 October 1978, and stressing the need for adopting practical initiatives by the United Nations to put an end to Syrian attacks against civilians.

3. To ask the International Red Cross to intervene in order to insure medical assistance to the wounded and to send essential foodstuffs to the city, which has a population of more than 150,000 people.

4. To make the state face its responsibilities and to urge the officials and ministers to adopt the necessary stands demanded by their national and patriotic duty, and to consider that Zahlah is also Lebanese territory, like southern Lebanon, which has so far been the subject of all official diplomatic, political, social and financial efforts.

Agreement Reached

NC212150 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 2115 GMT 21 Dec 80

[Text] During a meeting which took place this evening between representatives of Zahlah and the Syrian side, agreement was reached on the following points:

1. All armed manifestations by all sides in Zahlah will be eliminated.

2. The city will be opened tomorrow morning.

3. The internal security forces will maintain security and introduce intensive patrols.

4. The Syrian forces' roadblocks will remain inside the city and the forces will be supplied by the Syrians directly.

5. The siege on Zahlah will be lifted, and its roads will be reopened for people to come and go, without restrictions.

It has been decided to form a permanent committee for coordination between the Syrian forces and the representatives of the Zahlah factions.

The Zahlah side was represented in the meeting by Minister Ilyas al-Hirawi and Bishops (Farah) and (Iskandar) and (Sa'id 'Aql). The Syrian side was represented by Maj Gen (Sa'id Tayyan) and Col (Muhammad Ghanim).

ADF Statement

NC212231 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2200 GMT 21 Dec 80

[Text] Calm returned to Zahlah tonight. The following statement was issued by the Arab Deterrent Forces [ADF] command:

Within the framework of the efforts to deal with the situation in Zahlah and as a result of the intensive contacts which officials, dignitaries and influential forces in Zahlah held with the ADF command, a meeting was held in Shtawrah in the office of Staff Maj Gen (Sa'id at-Tayyan), commander of the Syrian Arab forces operating within the ADF. The meeting was attended by Bishop (Iskandar), Bishop (Farah), Minister Ilyas al-Hirawi (Sa'id 'Aql), Ministers Joseph Skaf and Joseph Abu Khatir, Deputy (Salim al-Ma'luf) and other Zahlah influential figures were in contact with this meeting.

The meeting resulted in the following decisions:

1. All armed manifestations will be completely removed from the city of Zahlah--that is, from the markets and internal quarters--as from 0600 tomorrow, Monday.

2. The commercial markets will be opened and life will return to normal as from tomorrow morning.

The ADF will continue to discharge their duty in maintaining security inside the city in order to prevent any disorder and disturbances.

CLASHES WITH ISRAELI FORCES IN LEBANON REPORTED

JN191226 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 19 Dec 80

[Text] A military spokesman has stated the following: Between 0200 and 0300 on 19 December 1980, the Israeli enemy raided the Al-'Ayshiyah and Ar-Rayhan region in southern Lebanon. During the raid, the enemy shelled one of our units in that region with artillery fire. Our forces returned fire and silenced the enemy sources of fire.

Enemy losses: unknown.

Our losses: Three were martyred, two were wounded and one vehicle was destroyed.

20 Dec Response

JN200944 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0915 GMT 20 Dec 80

[Text] Damascus--A military spokesman has stated the following: at 0615 on 20 December 1980, our forces intensively shelled an Israeli tank concentration inside Lebanese territories, inflicting heavy losses on them, in response to the Israeli enemy's shelling of our forces in Al-Ayshiyah and Ar-Rayhan in southern Lebanon on 19 December 1980.

In an urgent AFP dispatch from Metulla in northern occupied Palestine, Israeli press correspondents were quoted as saying that for an hour this morning Syrian artillery launched approximately 1000 shells in the eastern sector of southern Lebanon, wounding a large number of persons and causing heavy material losses. AFP adds that Israeli military quarters are following the Syrian artillery with great concern and have stepped up the state of emergency on the borders. Rescue operations are being carried out in the places that were subject to shelling.

TISHRIN URGES END TO ISARELI 'BELLIGERENCY'

JN211010 Damscus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 21 Dec 80

[Press review]

[Text] Under the headline "What Is Behind Israel's Belligerency?" TISHRIN says: Israel's military provocation against the Syrian forces, which are in Lebanon to maintain peace and security and to carry out the orders of the legitimate Lebanese authority, and the repeated Israeli military attacks against Lebanese territory and Palestinian refugee camps constitute a serious escalation of tension in southern Lebanon and in the region as a whole. This well-planned escalation is part of the imperialist-Zionist activity throughout the region.

Since Israel is merely a tool, the responsibility for threatening the region's peace and security falls squarely on the shoulders of the United States. Israel and the United States are held responsible for any consequences that might result from Israel's insistence on playing with fire near the Middle East powder keg.

Israel's belligerency on the Lebanese-Israeli armistice line and in southern Lebanon is in blatant defiance of the international community, the United Nations and international law. It would be irresponsible for the United Nations to ignore or remain silent about Israel's serious military provocations in the region. Needless to say, a fire started by Israel in the region would not be confined to this tense and explosive region alone. Therefore, it is time the international community adopted a firm stand on Israel's daily military aggressions against Lebanon and the Palestinian people. It is also time the United Nations implemented its many resolutions, commensurate with its responsibility for world peace.

As far as Syria is concerned, Israel's military belligerency has not been surprising. It has been considered a part of the political, military and economic pressure exerted by U.S. imperialism, Zionism and by all those involved in the Camp David conspiracy and the U.S. game to liquidate the Palestine question. Just as all previous pressure has failed to affect Syria's principled stands, the new pressure will fail to prevent Syria from pursuing the anti-imperialist and anti-Zionist progressive national policy declared by President Hafiz al-Asad. Syria does not fear threats or Israel's acts of belligerency, which have become frequent recently. Further, Syria will not renege on its declared positions of opposition to U.S. domination of the region and to Israeli hegemony over the Arab homeland. No power can force Syria to abandon its common destiny with fraternal Lebanon and the Palestinian Arab people.

If Syria's position on the Jordanian king's involvement in the new U.S. efforts to liquidate the Palestine question and his encroachment on the PLO's rights was the reason for the provocations undertaken and increasing pressure exerted by U.S. imperialism, Israel and other parties, such an escalation of tension will help neither the U.S. plot nor the Jordanian king. Syria is confident that it can--through its own increasing strength, its solid internal front, Arab support and friendly relations with all anti-imperialist and anti-racist forces in the world--face all possibilities and reply to the belligerency, provocations and pressures in an appropriate manner and at the appropriate time.

Syria will not allow the Arab homeland to become an American colony, or Arab territories to become American bases, or certain Arab surrender to become a general Arab policy.

NINE MUSLIM BROTHERHOOD MEMBERS KILLED IN ALEPPO

JN191700 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 19 Dec 80

[Text] Aleppo--The security organs today stormed a Muslim Brotherhood gang den located in the Al-Haydariyah area. The security organs managed to kill all of the nine criminals hiding inside. The security organs also seized a number of guns, one mortar, an RPG launcher, a sniper's rifle, a duplicating machine, a sewing machine and camouflaged clothes that were used by the gang's members to do harm to our army. The security organs also seized a number of important documents, false identities, a number of cassette tapes, large amounts of TNT, a number of electronic detonating devices and huge amounts of various ammunition.

BA'TH OFFICIAL MEETS EGYPTIAN OPPOSITION LEADER

JN211705 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 21 Dec 80

[Text] Damascus--Comrade 'Abdallah al-Ahmar, Ba'th Party assistant secretary general, received Lt Gen Sa'd ad-Din ash-Shadhili, secretary general of the Egyptian National Front, at the National Command headquarters this morning. The two sides reviewed the current situation in the Arab region and the conspiracies U.S. imperialism is trying to implement in our region.

Ash-Shadhili praised Syria's principled and firm stand under the leadership of the Ba'th Party and its secretary general, Hafiz al-Asad, against imperialist-Zionist schemes aimed at fragmenting the unity of the Arab nation and its progressive forces in order to peddle the plans of capitulation and the Camp David schemes to subject the Arab region to U.S. imperialist domination. Ash-Shadhili also praised the Syrian-Libyan Arab unity. He stressed that this unity will be the nucleus and the starting point for the comprehensive Arab unity.

Comrade al-Ahmar referred to the important role played by the Egyptian National Front in supporting opposition national forces inside and outside Egyptian against the regime of traitor As-Sadat in order to foil his conspiratorial and capitulatory plans, including the conspiratorial Camp David plans.

ALGERIA

VIETNAM'S VO NGUYEN GIAP ENDS 1-WEEK VISIT

LD201420 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 20 Dec 80

[Text] Gen Vo Nguyen Giap, member of the Vietnamese Communist Party Politburo and vice premier for economic and scientific affairs, left Algiers this morning after a 1-week visit to our country as head of an important delegation. The visit was made at the invitation of the FLN. At the airport he was seen off by a number of party officials including Mohammed Sharif Musa'idiyah, member of the Central Committee and official responsible for the Permanent Secretariat of the Committee. During his visit General Giap was received by President Chadli Bendjedid, Speaker of the National People's Assembly Rabin Bitat, and Prime Minister Mohamed Abdelghani. General Giap also met the secretary general of the National Defense Ministry and officials of the FLN. He also held lengthy talks with an FLN delegation led by Mohamed Sharif Musa'idiyah. These talks were resumed yesterday when the Algerian delegation was led by Musa'idiyah and the Vietnamese delegation by General Giap and dealt with bilateral relations and cooperaton between the two countries and parties. The delegations stressed the need to increase meetings between the two countries in order to benefit from the experience of each other's revolution.

The two sides discussed international questions on which there was an identity of views on the need to support the liberation movements, to defend the questions of the weak peoples and their self-determination, and to work for strengthening the nonalignment movement, the fostering of peace and the establishment of a new international economic order. The two sides also expressed the need to form a cohesive front opposed to imperialism, racism, Zionism and colonialism in all its forms. During their talks the two sides agreed on the need to infuse new life in and give dynamism to the mixed Algerian-Vietnamese commission, the first meeting of which has been fixed for the first quarter of next year.

LIBYA

SPOKESMAN REPLIES TO U.S. STATE DEPARTMENT ON CHAD

LD191750 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1615 GMT 19 Dec 80

[Text] Tripoli, 19 Dec (JANA)--A spokesman of the Libyan External Liaison Bureau has made a statement to JANA in reply to the recent statements by the U.S. State Department spokesman that the United States viewed with concern what he described as Libya's interference in Chad. The Libyan spokesman said that the United States and the imperialist powers do not want to see stability and security return to Chad now that the rebellion has been crushed. This is because the United States wants to find a pretext for maneuvering to dominate Chad and other African countries and loot their wealth. This is evident from the fact that though the war has ended, the rebellion has been finally crushed and the national legitimate government forces have taken full control of the entire Chadian territory, we still hear the U.S. State Department spokesman making utterances through which the U.S. administration aims at creating confusion and sedition and at interfering in the internal affairs of Africa and Chad. Had it not been for the U.S. State Department statement, the spokesman added, Libya would not have touched on this matter at all because it does not itself wish to interfere nor see others interfere in the internal affairs of the African countries.

Libya, he said, does not conceal the fact that it has been offering peaceful civil aid to the hungry and afflicted Chadian people and that it sends daily hundreds of tons of medicines, food, vaccines, baby milk and clothing to Chad at the time when the imperialist powers express sorrow at the ending of the war there and hope that the war will flare up again.

It would have been better for these countries, he said, to offer aid to the Chadian people instead of trying to create sedition and reopen wounds. Libya will continue to offer humanitarian aid, the spokesman stressed, to the fraternal Chadian people as dictated by its African duty. The prevalence of security in Chad is of prime importance to Libya before any other country, he said, and it is determined to inflict defeat on imperialism until it is crushed and expelled from all the areas it controls.

We are very sorry to see such statements made by a big power which is a permanent member of the UN Security Council, he added. In any case, these statements are irresponsible as they are made by the collapsing Carter administration which is about to collect its scattered papers and leave office, he added. We also believe that these statements do not reflect the views of the new U.S. administration of Reagan which has not yet assumed office.

We warn against any interference in Chad in whatever form and by whatever method, the spokesman said. Those who feign care for the Chadian people should help them to restore stability instead of creating sedition and interfering in their internal affairs.

AL-MAJALLAH REPORTS SOVIET-LIBYAN TREATY EXPECTED

LD220859 London AL-MAJALLAH in Arabic 20-26 Dec 80 p 10

["From AL-MAJALLAH's Ambassadors" feature]

[Text] Informed Arab diplomatic sources have stated that Libya will conclude a 20-year treaty of friendship and cooperation with the Soviet Union if Egypt launches a major military offensive against it. The sources pointed out that this treaty will be very similar to the one which Syria signed with the Soviet Union last September. The possibilities of a military confrontation between Egypt and Libya increased in the past 2 weeks and were at the center of contacts between Cairo and Washington. If such a treaty is signed, Moscow would acquire an impotant strategic and political position in North Africa.

MAURITANIA

NEW DRAFT CONSTITUTION PUBLISHED BY CMSN

AB191717 [Editorial report] Nouakchott Domestic Service in French at 1430 GMT on 19 December reports that a draft constitution was published this morning by the Permanent Secretariat of the Military Committee of National Salvation and that it will be presented later to the people in a referendum. The draft constitution says: "Conscious of Allah's omnipotence, the Mauritanian people proclaim their determination to guarantee the integrity of their territory and to ensure their political, economic and social development in freedom. They proclaim their attachment to Islam and to the democratic principles as defined in the universal declaration of human rights as well as in the other international conventions to which the Islamic Republic of Mauritania has subscribed. The Islamic Republic of Mauritania, an Arab and African country, is working within the frameworks of the Arab, African and international organizations which it has joined in order to consolidate world peace and ensure the advent of a more equitable international order."

Article 1 of the draft constitution stipulates that Mauritania is an Islamic, parliamentary, indivisible, democratic and social republic. The republic assures the citizens of equality before the law without any racial, religious or social conditions. Article 2 says that sovereignty belongs to the people who exercise it directly through a referendum or indirectly through constitutional institutions. No fraction of the people and no individual can exercise it and sovereignty cannot be partially or totally abandoned without the people's consent. Article 4 stipulates that there cannot be a single political party in the country.

Article 5 of the constitution says that Islam is the religion of the people but that the republic guarantees religious freedom.

Article 11 of the constitution guarantees to all the citizens freedom of movement and settlement in any part of the republic they like, freedom of choice, freedom of expression in every form, freedom of assembly, association and of joining trade unions of their choice. Article 12 says that one can be arrested, detained or punished only in accordance with the provisions of the law. Article 14 guarantees the right to strike while article 15 stipulates that the president of the republic is the head of the state. He is of the Islamic religion and he is born a Mauritanian. He is the guardian of the constitution, according to article 17. With the consent of the Constitutional Council, he can dissolve the National Assembly. He exercises the right of pardon and he is the supreme commander of the armed forces. Article 20 says the president of the republic can be reelected only once.

"Article 30 stipulates that the prime minister is the head of the government. He exercises the executive power; he appoints and dismisses the ministers who are responsible to him." Article 40 stipulates that declaration of war must be authorized by the national assembly while article 47 says that the prime minister can declare a state of siege or emergency with the consent of the president of the republic.

Article 52 of the draft constitution says that the judiciary is independent of the executive and legislative authorities while article 54 says that no one can be detained arbitrarily.

"Transitional provisions--Article 66: Pending the setting up of the institutions provided for by the present constitution, the exercise of power will continue to be governed by the charter and the ordinances of the Military Committee of National Salvation."

SUDAN

NUMAYRI CALLS FOR LIBYAN WITHDRAWAL FROM CHAD

JN211047 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1020 GMT 21 Dec 80

[Text] Khartoum, 21 Dec (SUNA)--President Numayri has stressed that the war in Chad is not yet over and that peace has not spread throughout Chad. President Numayri believes that the war has just begun and that there will be no peace there until after the Libyan forces withdraw from that fraternal country. President Numayri added that the government in Chad will become stable only after the Lagos conference and after its results are known.

President Numayri said that Sudan, which supports the convening of the Lagos conference, will invite all member countries of the committee of wise men to attend this conference. President Numayri also appealed to all African countries to call for the withdrawal of the Libyan forces from fraternal and neighborly Chad. President Numayri pointed out that over past years Sudan had been concerned about solving this issue peacefully and without interference by foreign parties.

President Numayri was replying to a letter sent him by His Excellency Libyan President Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, in which the letter stressed that the war in Chad is over, that Chad now enjoys stability and security and that the Lagos conference of African heads of state, scheduled to be held next Tuesday to discuss the situation in Chad, is no longer necessary.

JOINT COMMUNIQUE ISSUED ON DEPARTURE OF KENYA'S MOI

LD201620 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 18 Dec 80 EA

["Test" of the joint Sudan-Kenya communique on the 15-18 December visit to Sudan by Kenyan President Daniel Arap Moi]

[Text] At the invitation of His Excellency President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri, president of the Democratic Republic of Sudan and supreme commander of the People's Armed Forces, His Excellency Danie T. Arap Moi, president of the Republic of Kenya and commander in chief of the Kenyan Armed Forces, paid an official and friendly visit to the Democratic Republic of Sudan 15-18 December, 1980. The visit represents the eternal [word indistinct] spirit [words indistinct] relations between the two countries. [passage indistinct]

His Excellency President Moi and his delegation, from the time of their arrival and during their stay, were accorded full hospitality [word indistinct], reflecting the traditional friendship between the friendly peoples of Kenya and Sudan. His Excellency President Moi and his delegation visited, during their stay in Sudan, [words indistinct], the Sudanese national museum, the Kenana sugar scheme, and the General Secretariat of the Sudanese Socialist Union. [passage indistinct]. They attended a display by the Sudanese national folklore group and the Sudanese acrobatic group in Friendship Hall. They also attended a reception organized by the acting governor of Khartoum Province, in their honor, in the gardens of the Sudanese national museum.

The two presidents fully exchanged views on matters connected with the development and the consolidation of the historical links [word indistinct] on which friendship is based [word indistinct] and good-neighbor relations and also the development of cooperation in all fields between the two friendly countries. They also (?exchanged views) on regional, African and international issues of common interest to the two countries. The talks were held in an atmosphere of friendship and mutual understanding [word indistinct] and were attended by senior (?officials) from the two countries.

The Sudanese side attending the talks included Maj Gen 'Umar Muhammad at-Tayyib, member of the SSU Sudanese Socialist Union] Political Bureau and deputy secretary general [words indistinct]; Mr Mustafa 'Uthman Hasan, minister of transport; Mr Izz ad-Din as-Sayyid, chairman of the parliamentary group of the National People's Assembly; HMR Muhammad Mirghani Mubarak, minister of state for foreign affairs; Mr as-Sayyid [words indistinct]; Mr Ahmad Salim, minister of state for cooperation, commerce and supply; Mr [name indistinct], regional minister of transport and communications; Mr Hashim Uthman, [post indistinct]; Mr Sirr al-Khatim as-Sanusi, Sudan's ambassador to Kenya; [name and post indistinct]; [name indistinct], head of the Africa Department in the Foreign Ministry; and Mr (Mustafa Ali Arbab) head of the Political Department at the Presidency of the republic.

The Kenyan side at the talks was represented by Dr Robert Ouka, foreign minister; Mr G.G. Kariuki, minister of state in the office of the president; Mr Nicholas Biwott, minister of state in the office of the president; Mr Stanley Oloitipitip, minister of local government; Mr Henry Kosgey, minister of transport and communications; Mr [name indistinct], member of Parliament; Mr Simon Nyachae, permanent secretary in the office of the president; Mr J. Muliro, permanent secretary in the Foreign Ministry; Mr L. Odero, chief of protocol; Mr F.K. Nganatha, Kenyan ambassador to Sudan; Mr Wafula Wabuge [as received], Kenyan ambassador to Uganda; [name and designation indistinct];, of the Ministry of Transport; [name indistinct] Kenyan military (?attache) accredited to Sudan; [last two names and designations indistinct]

His excellency President Ja'far Numayri briefed His Excellency President Moi on the May revolution achievements and on the objectives and programs of the SSU aimed at building a united, (?revolutionary) Sudan. His Excellency President Numayri also briefed President Daniel Arap Moi on Sudan's foreign policy of continuing and consolidating good-neighbor relations and cooperation.

His Excellency President Moi expressed [words indistinct] and the achievements realized under the leadership of President Numayri and the SSU. In this connection, His Excellency President Moi expressed [words indistinct] he establishment of close cooperation between the SSU and the Kenya African National Union [KANU]. His Excellency President Daniel Arap Moi briefed President Numayri on the achievements of the Kenya Government and the (?projects) that have been completed for the Kenyan people. His Excellency President Moi also briefed President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri on the (?major) achievements which the Kenyan people had realized in the fields of economic and social development.

President Numayri hailed the achievements of the Kenya Government and people and also praised continuing efforts by the Kenya Government to achieve economic and social development. He expressed the appreciation of the government and people of Sudan and their (?support) for the Kenya Government and the Kenyan (?people) under the wise leadership of President Moi and KANU.

(?Reviewing) bilateral relations, the two sides expressed their satisfaction at the positive and [words indistinct] developments which have so far been achieved. They reaffirmed their determination to (?develop) and consolidate their relations [words indistinct] development of relations of cooperation and consultation in all fields and at all levels.

In this connection, the two presidents expressed support for what had been achieved by the Kenya-Sudan joint consultative committee at its last session. They expressed their satisfaction with the tangible meausres already taken to develop various aspects of cooperation between the two countries in the commercial, economic and cultural fields.

The two presidents expressed their faith that President Daniel Arap Moi's visit to the Democratic Republic of Sudan [words indistinct] and support for the fraternal relations between the two fraternal countries. In this regard, the presidents of the two countries agreed to expedite the (?construction) of the road linking Kenya to Sudan through [words indistinct] contacts or unilaterally to ensure (?the financing) of this (?major) regional project.

The two sides are of the view [words indistinct] with the government of socialist Ethiopia to convene a meeting of the Sudanese-Kenyan-Ethiopian joint ministerial committee [words indistinct].

President Numayri briefed his distinguished guest on the outcome of his meetings with the Ethiopian president, Mengistu Haile Mariam, [word indistinct] last November. President Moi acquainted President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri on the outcome of the recent visit made by the Ethiopian president to the Republic of Kenya. The two sides expressed their faith that these two (?visits) would contribute to the aspirations of the peoples of the three countries and consolidate peace, (?stability) and security [words indistinct] not only in the region but also in Africa and the rest of the world.

Reviewing the situation in the fraternal Republic of Uganda following the general elections, [words indistinct] the two sides wish to strengthen the historic relations of [words indistinct], friendship and cooperation between Sudan, Kenya and Uganda. [words indistinct] the Ugandan Government and people in their efforts to achieve national unity and the reconstruction of their (?homeland).

[Several words indistinct] the principles of the United Nations, the OAU and the nonaligned movement.

Dealing with matters of [word indistinct] and cooperation, the two presidents affirmed that cooperation based on mutual respect [words indistinct] and development of friendship and solidarity [words indistinct]. The two presidents appealed to the international community [words indistinct] the opportunities [words indistinct] the appropriate institutions the aspirations and needs of the developing countries. They affirmed their faith, in this connection, in the establishment of an international economic order [word indistinct] based on justice and equality [words indistinct] to ensure security and peace for the peoples of the world.

The two sides stressed the importance of renewing the North-South dialogue and (?appealed) to the industrial nations to increase their assistance to the developing countries in a tangible manner and in real (?terms).

The two presidents reaffirmed their support for the OAU [words indistinct] to achieve economic and social progress [words indistinct]. They expressed their determination to continue working for peace, stability and (?African) cooperation for the common future good of all African peoples.

The two sides renewed their appeal [words indistinct] through peaceful means and on the basis of the OAU principles and within the framework of [words indistinct].

In connection with [words indistinct] the two presidents appealed to all member states of the OAU to declare their loyalty to the organization, which must be regarded as the basis for dealing with bilateral problems [words indistinct] (?and to clear) the African Continent of all problems.

The two presidents agreed that security in the Indian Ocean region, and the (?Horn of Africa) [word indistinct], The Mediterranean Sea and the Red Sea [words indistinct], and the two presidents agreed to appeal to all the states concerned to keep [words indistinct] and the Indian Ocean a zone of peace.

The two sides expressed their great concern [words indistinct] in fraternal Chad and appealed to all [words indistinct] to bear their responsibility [words indistinct] and the foreign troops [words indistinct] and take the necessary measures [words indistinct] political negotiations.

[Words indistinct] for the Namibian people under [word indistinct] and SWAPO, as the sole legitimate representative of the Namibian people in their struggle [passage indistinct] and the two sides reaffirmed their determination to continue [words indistinct] with all the peoples of the world for the (?final) elimination of hated racist rule. To achieve this objective, the two sides appealed to the international community to join the African nations [words indistinct] resolutions of the OAU, the United Nations and the nonaligned movement. The two leaders appealed to all the peace-loving nations of the world, and especially those (?upholding) the principles of human rights [word indistinct] racial discrimination.

Regarding the Middle East, the two sides stressed that the [words indistinct] to achieve a durable and just peace in the Middle East. In this connection Sudan and Kenya declared their complete rejection of the annexation [words indistinct] the territory of other peoples. On this basis, the two sides fully support all UN resolutions concerning the total withdrawal of Israel from all the (?occupied) Arab territories.

With regard to the Iraq-Iran war, the two sides expressed their great concern about this armed conflict which harms the interests of the peoples of the two countries and the cause of (?regional) and international peace. [passage indistinct]

The Kenyan president also expressed his appreciation for the positive and (?constructive) role played by Sudan in strengthening unity and cooperation between the African and Arab worlds.

President Moi extended an invitation to President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri to pay an official visit to the Republic of Kenya. President Numayri expressed his happiness at accepting the invitation. The date of the visit will be fixed through consultation between the two sides.

His Excellency President Moi expressed his deep gratitude [word indistinct] people and government of the Democratic Republic of Sudan [words indistinct] during their stay in Khartoum and all that had been done to make the visit successful [words indistinct].

[Signed] Ja'far Muhammad Numayri, president of the Democratic Republic of Sudan and supreme commander of Sudan's People's Armed Forces

Daniel Arap Moi, president of the Republic of Kenya and commander in chief of Kenya's Armed Forces.

TUNISIA

FOREIGN MINISTER BELKHODJA REVIEWS FOREIGN POLICY

LD191648 Tunis TAP in English 1400 GMT 19 Dec 80

[Text] Tunis, 19 Dec (TAP)--The Tunisian foreign minister, Mr Hassan Belkhodja, deplored the existence of chronic conflicts and tensions in several regions of the world, especially in Asia and Africa, which are stirred up by the big powers' antagonism. Addressing on Thursday the Tunisian Assembly (Parliament) which was examining the budget of the Foreign Ministry for 1981, Mr Belkhodja furthermore regretted that on the economic level the international community has not yet succeeded in setting up an adequate framework for a new, fairer and more balanced world order.

He however affirmed the determination of Tunisia and the other developing countries to settle the difficulties which are still impeding the installation of this new order so as to achieve their aims on the level of international exchanges. After identifying the bases of Tunisia's foreign policy, i.e. the preservation of national independence, mutual respect, the establishment of a loyal cooperation, defense of just causes and the strengthening of peace in the world, the minister gave the broad lines of the Tunisian diplomacy. He pointed out in this regard the positive development of Tunisia's relations with the Maghreb countries--excepting Libya--and with the Arab Middle East and Gulf countries.

With Africa, Tunisia is deploying efforts for the strengthening of political relations, a policy similar to the one it leads with Third World countries. Though the economic relations are still below the expected level and the level of political relations, Tunisia has already fixed the juridical framework of an eventual tight cooperation with African countries.

U.S., ISRAEL DENY REPORT ON SINAI AIRFIELDS

TA211907 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 21 Dec 80

[Text] The American Embassy in Cairo has denied that Washington requested the use of two military air strips in the Israeli-occupied Sinai. Egypt's Deputy Premier Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din had said both the United States and Israel had insisted that American forces be allowed to use the air strips. Cairo categorically rejected the idea. Spokesmen for both the American and Israeli Embassies said there had been no official request, with the Israelis adding that the question had arisen in conversations at various levels. President as-Sadat has offered the United States military facilities in Egypt but Vice Premier Muhyi ad-Din said that this does not extend to the Sinai.

CABINET TO ASK KNESSET TO REMOVE GOLAN BILL

TA221108 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 22 Dec 80

[Text] The government will recommend that the Knesset remove from its agenda MK Ge'ula Kohen's private bill on annexing the Golan Heights. This was decided in the Cabinet by a majority vote. The Cabinet secretary explained that the annexation proposal cannot improve Israel's security. He added that there are grounds to believe that the timing is not suitable either. The Cabinet secretary, nevertheless, emphasized that the government's position is that the Golan should remain in Israel's hands. He said that this issue will be decided in negotiations with Syria.

Our correspondent David Essing has learned that the Coalition will hold contacts with the Labor Party to check the possibility of acting together on their issue.

Further Report

TA221227 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 22 Dec 80

[Excerpt] The Cabinet will propose that the Knesset remove from the agenda the Tehiya faction bill for the annexation of the Golan Heights. Two ministers opposed this position: Ari'el Sharon and Yiga'el Hurvitz. Minister Moda'i abstained. Ministers Landau and Abu-Hatzera did not attend the session. After the Cabinet session the Cabinet secretary said that the Coalition executive would be asked to speak with the opposition factions, and especially with the Alignment faction, to find out if their position was different from that of the Cabinet. If this were the case, Mr Na'or told the correspondent, it would be a new situation. Our correspondent Razi Barqay reported that the Cabinet decision only applies to the Tehiya faction's private member's bill. There are three other private members' bills involving a change in the states of the Golan Heights before the Knesset.

KHALIL, GHALI SHOW 'FLEXIBILITY' IN TALKS

TA211315 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 21 Dec 80 p 3

[Shmu'el Segev report: "Khalil and Ghali explained in talks with Labor Party leaders: Egypt Favors Granting Self-Determination to Palestinians but not Political Independence"]

[Excerpt] Egypt favors the Palestinians right to self-determination but not as a corridor to political independence, but rather as part of a federation or confederation with the Kingdom of Jordan. This was made clear by former Egyptian Prime Minister Dr Mustafa Khalil and Egyptian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali in several working meetings with Israeli Labor Party leaders over the weekend.

On Friday evening Khalil and Ghali were the guests of honor at a "family dinner" held at the house of Labor Party Chairman Shim'on Peres in Tel Aviv. Over the past 3 days they also met with Knesset members Abba Eban and Hayim Bar Lev, with Beersheba Mayor Eliyahu Nawi, with former Chief of Staff Mordekhay Gur, and with (former ambassadors) Dinitz, Asher ben-Natan and Hayim Herzog.

The position presented by Khalil and Ghali in these talks was much more flexible than the stance expressed in public talks and in officials statements by the Egyptian Government. Thus, for instance, Khalil and Ghali explained that Jordan's position was considerably strengthened because of the Iran-Iraq war and because of the recent Arab summit conference in Amman. In their opinion this summit isolated Damascus and placed Jordan in a group of moderate Arab countries under Saudi leadership.

They said that Egypt recognized the fact that a solution to the Palestinian problem would have to be made in the framework of the Kingdom of Jordan, but if King Husayn joins the peace process now he may disrupt the framework of the Camp David agreements, and this is a price Egypt is not yet willing to pay. In the course of time, however, Saudi Arabia may exercise its influence and bring both Jordan and Syria to joint the peace talks with Israel. Khalil and Ghali stressed that coordination of positions between Israel and Egypt may be instrumental in making Jordan join the peace process in the future.

The Labor Party leaders stressed again and again their opposition to the establishment of an independent Palestinian state, to the PLO's joining the peace talks and to a full Israeli withdrawal from the territories captured in the 6-day war. They emphasized the need for defensible borders and the necessity of solving the problem of the Palestinian national identity in the framework of the Kingdom of Jordan.

The Labor Party leaders were surprised by the degree of flexibility shown by Khalil and Ghali on the Palestinian issue. They expressed their hope that through mutual understanding, coordination of positions and recognition of Israel's security needs, a satisfactory solution to the Palestinian problem can be found.

Khalil and Ghali stressed that the new alignment in the Arab world was consolidated in a much more significant manner than could be estimated at first glance and that Egypt believed that Palestinian representatives from the residents of the territories, not necessarily from the PLO leaders, could join the talks. This could be achieved by relying on the Kingdom of Jordan and on condition that the Israel Government changed its policy toward the inhabitants of the territories. Thus for example, Khali and Ghali demanded that the Israeli Government allow political organizing in the territories, provided that the Palestinians object to terrorist acts, recognize the existence of the State of Israel and express their willingness to join peace talks with it.

The Labor leaders were very much encouraged by these manifestations of flexible views and argued that if President as-Sadat had declared these views in public, he would have helped to dissolve the prevailing vagueness about Egypt's position on the Palestinian problem.

BURG REJECTS CRITICISM OF MEETING WITH GHALI

TA211204 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 21 Dec 80 p 3

[Ilan Kfir report: "Burg: My Meeting with Ghali Was Coordinated with Yitzhaq Shamir"]

[Text] Israeli autonomy team chairman Dr Yosef Burg has rejected the criticism by various government circles of his meeting in Tel Aviv with Egyptian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Butrus Ghali. He said that this meeting was coordinated with Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir.

The criticism by Likud government circles was that Dr Burg had violated the principle that official political meetings should be held solely in Jerusalem. Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir has not met with Dr Ghali, who refused to visit Jerusalem as a protest against the Jerusalem law.

Dr Burg told MA'ARIV that his conversation with Dr Ghali was unofficial, and that the initiative to hold this talk was that of the Egyptian minister, who twice called Burg's home in Jerusalem.

Dr Burg added that he coordinated his meeting with the Egyptian minister with Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir. He also noted that the meetings of the autonomy negotiating teams were held in Herzliyya and in Tel Aviv.

Foreign Ministry spokesman Naftali Lavi confirmed that the Burg-Ghali meeting was held with the knowledge of the foreign minister, who did not see anything wrong with it.

TZIPORI COMMENTS ON SYRIAN MOVES IN LEBANON

TA210653 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 21 Dec 80

[Interview with Israeli Deputy Defense Minister Mordekhay Tzipori by military correspondent Shmu'el Tal on 21 December; place not given--recorded]

[Text] [Question] The Syrians say that during the IDF action in southern Lebanon, IDF artillery hit one of their units and three of their troops were killed. Was it known that Syrian troops were in the area shelled?

[Answer] First, there is no doubt whatsoever that Israel is not interested in any confrontation with any of its neighbors; not with Jordan, or with Syria, or with Lebanon. Israel's only problem, the one it is coping with at the moment, is those terrorists who have begun to make more intensive attempts. Certainly if something happened and Syrian soldiers were hit, for reasons which are still unclear, nor is it clear who it was who hit them, it is simply a regrettable incident; and we definitely cannot be accused of having done this deliberately.

[Question] Mr Tzipori in your opinion, what does the Syrian shelling of the enclave presage?

[Answer] I cannot speak about this in terms of any sort of prediction. It could be, since according to their announcement three Syrian soldiers were killed, and they suspect that Haddad's forces were responsible for this, that they gave him an answer.

[Question] They actually say that it was the IDF forces who did it.

[Answer] There is a contradiction here; but I will not refer to this by going beyond what I have said. I can only say that Israel is not interested in any confrontation on any border.

[Question] In your opinion are the Syrians trying to create any sort of focus of tension in southern Lebanon?

[Answer] In the unstable Middle East any possibility created can turn into reality. I hope they are not trying to create any focus of tension against Israel. In any event, we will try to prevent this.

[Question] Mr Tzipori, this morning we have heard that Syria has warned Israel that it will retaliate with a painful blow for attempted aggression. What does Israel say to Syria about this?

[Answer] I did not hear the Syrian announcement. Since I have also not participated in any discussion in which Israel decided to react in one way or another--and I certainly cannot speak in the name of the entire State of Israel--I can speak only about matters decided by us, so I have no answer to that question.

IDF DENIES SYRIAN CLAIMS ON ISRAELI TANKS

TA201030 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 20 Dec 80

[Text] About 1 and 1/2 hours ago Radio Damascus stopped its broadcasts and announced that the Syrian Army had shelled southern Lebanon this morning in reaction to Israel's firing at Syrian forces in the Al-'Ayshiyah and Ar-Rayhaniyah regions. According to the Syrian radio, this morning's fire was aimed at Israel's tank concentration inside Lebanese territory and that concentration had been heavily damaged.

The IDF spokesman completely denied that there was a concentration of tanks in southern Lebanon. Our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal added that, according to the Syrian announcement, it may be assumed that this morning's shelling came as a reaction to the deaths of three Syrian soldiers and the wounding of two others during the IDF action against the terrorists in the Al-Mahmudiyah region. Our correspondent commented that the IDF action was aimed only against terrorist targets, and if Syrian troops were hit, it appears that it was by mistake and that they were somewhere the Syrians should not have been. Military sources have expressed their regret about this.

Our correspondent has learned that apparently there were no casualties in the Syrian shelling of southern Lebanon either among the inhabitants or among the UN troops. It seems that five or six houses in Marj 'Uyun and Balat were damaged.

CHIEF OF STAFF COMMENTS ON SOUTHERN LEBANON, SYRIA

Speech at Bank Meeting

TA220733 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 2100 GMT 21 Dec 80

[Text] Tel Aviv, 21 December--This evening Chief of Staff Lt Gen Refa'el Eytan said that the incident in which Syrian forces were involved in Lebanon during the latest IDF action at the end of last week was not the first time that the Syrians had been close to combat zones and had been hit by our fire.

Syrian planes were used over Lebanon in the past, the chief of staff recalled, and added: "I do not think the incident will lead to a change in the situation and, in fact, the matter was concluded with the Syrians reacting by firing at the Christians in southern Lebanon."

The chief of staff was speaking in the Tel Aviv Park Hotel at a meeting with Bank Le'umi managers and senior officials, who had handed over a check for 1 million Israeli shekels as an advance commitment by this group of Bank Le'umi employees to the fund for the security of Israel. The chief of staff, who arrived late at the meeting after having participated in marathon debates by the economic minicabinet in Jerusalem, replied to questions by bank employees. Speaking about the situation in the north he commented that today southern Lebanon was the only place from which the terrorists were continuing to work against Israel. This was the terrorists' staging area for actions and attacks throughout the world, not only in Israel but the Syrians were not permitting them to enter their territory and Jordan was not allowing them to act from its territory. Our war against the terrorists in southern Lebanon is an offensive one, he said. We take offensive action wherever and whenever conditions permit us to attack terrorist concentrations.

Lieutenant General Eytan added that on all the other fronts the IDF maintained a purely defensive deployment. In his view this activity in Lebanon had borne fruit in that the terrorists were finding themselves restricted in their actions, were afraid and were being forced to move from place to place and were being kept busy with their own affairs.

The chief of staff explained that the Syrian force was about 3 km from the terrorist positions that were the objective for the IDF operation and they were really inside the combat zone. "The Syrians fired artillery and we returned fire," the chief of staff said.

In reply to a question about to what extent the nuclear reactor being built in Iraq was a threat to Israel, the chief of staff recalled that after the Iranian Air Force had bombed the site, Syria made an official announcement that the reactor was not directed against Iran, but Israel. "This forces us to take the matter seriously," he said, and added that "we do not know how much damage the Iranian bombing caused to the reactor." He added that Iraq had not signed any agreement with Israel--either ceasefire agreements or any others--and it had taken part in all the wars against us. The fact that the reactor might become a military installation was a factor Israel had to consider, he said.

Answering another question the chief of staff said that Major Sa'd Haddad's forces in southern Lebanon were now in a position to stand on their own feet and defend themselves. He added that Israel's support for this population had increased, and sometimes there were temporary liaisons between Haddad's and our forces. There was a radio link between them and the north of Israel, but the Lebanese Christians were acting as Lebanese patriots and serving their own interests. Israel had clear interests in the existence of this Christian strip along the border, he confirmed, since it was preventing the terrorists getting near the fence. But we are not interested in Haddad's people spilling their blood for us, he said.

As for terror inside Israel, the chief of staff confirmed that weapons were being smuggled into the country and that there was a terror problem, but he claimed it should be regarded as a continuation of the violent struggle between the two peoples that had been going on even before the state was established. "When have we known a week of calm even before the establishment of the state?" he asked.

When asked why we had not succeeded in hitting larger numbers of terrorists in the actions in southern Lebanon, the chief of staff explained that they were not situated in large camps and concentrations of platoons with orderly command posts. The nature of our fight against the terrorists there took the form of attacks against positions and installations, and our strength was measured by the spirit we could reveal--to continue to beat them on the one hand and, on the other, to continue to build the country. "Maybe the day will come when the terrorists understand that their war is hopeless, that their actions do not interfere with Israel building the country, and they will say: Enough, we are fed up." The chief of staff admitted that he did not know if they would ever come to this, but much depended on us, on how we attacked them and to what extent we insisted on guarding our own interests.

At the beginning of his remarks Lieutenant General Eytan repeated his explanation of the importance of the fund for the security of Israel which was intended to make the nation aware of the need for voluntary action. "The important contribution in this is that if your children, in another 10 years, are asked what their fathers did in a difficult time, the son can get up in class and say: My father contributed to the fund for the security of Israel."

Speech to 'Akko Students

TA211805 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 21 Dec 80

[From Evening Newsreel]

[Text] We will open with the two security issues: the cut in the defense budget and the Syrians in southern Lebanon. Referring to these issues, Chief of Staff Refa'el Eytan said:

[Begin recording] At present there are no exchanges of fire on our borders. [However], gunfire may be opened against us at any time. We must have the most powerful and sophisticated defensive wall. If this wall is only temporary and, God forbid, something should happen, then our existence would be in doubt. We do not enjoy the dame status as a European country that, if conquered by someone, becomes a conquered but not a destroyed country. If we are not able to stand up to and repel anything then we will be annihilated.

Several Syrian soldiers were killed because they were in the wrong place. The Syrians were stationed at a site from which artillery and mortar fire was opened at our forces. We returned fire at that location and Syrian soldiers happened to be there--this is the first point. The second point is: What are the Syrians doing in Lebanon anyway? [end recording]

The chief of staff was speaking to students in 'Akko. His remarks were reported by Ya'el 'Ezri.

HADDAD PROTEST CABLE TO WALDHEIM REPORTED

TA201322 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1300 GMT 20 Dec 80

[Text] Major Haddad has sent a cable to the UN secretary general complaining that the Syrian Army had shelled the civilian population this morning in the Christian enclave. In his cable Haddad said that the Syrians used missiles [as heard], against innocent inhabitants of Marj 'Uyun and caused serious damage to life and property. Haddad called on Waldheim to organize and embargo on all shipments of military equipment to Syria to prevent a repeat of the attacks on free Lebanon.

RADIO REPORTS DAMASCUS WARNINGS ABOUT S. LEBANON

TA210618 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 21 Dec 80

[Morning Newsreel]

[Text] We have already heard that Syria warned Israel last night that its army will not sit back with folded arms but will retaliate with a painful blow for any plot [as heard] by the Zionist enemy. Our monitor Mikha'el Gurdus reports:

Israel and Jordan are the main targets of radio Damascus' attacks after the latest events in southern Lebanon. Last night the radio Damascus commentator attacked Jordan for not helping Syria in the national fight against the Zionist enemy but, instead, continuing to support the Muslim Brotherhood, whose aim is to overthrow Hafiz al-Asad's regime. During the night radio Damascus warned Israel that Syria would react very strongly to its provocations in southern Lebanon. The Syrian commentator continued by boasting that Syria was now capable of reacting with twice as much strength as in the recent past, after its security forces had succeeded in suppressing the internal rebellion that had threatened the regime's existence. Appealing to Syrian Army troops, the radio Damascus commentator said last night: Our fighting brothers, Arab Syria will not surrender to the plot being made against it. The Zionist enemy and its supporters will learn that Syria will hurt its attackers with its reactions. That is what radio Damascus said.

Beirut administration elements describe the clash between the IDF and the Syrian Army as an isolated, limited incident. Last night the Phalangist radio reported that Lebanon would apparently demand an emergency meeting of the UN Security Council for a debate on the renewed deterioration in the region of the border with Israel. Beirut said that if Lebanon submits such a demand, it will be in accordance with a Syrian dictate.

MIDDAY PRESS ON SYRIAN FRONT, U.S. VOTE ON MAYORS

TA211008 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0900 GMT 21 Dec 80

[Review of midday press editorials]

[Text] MA'ARIV writes that there would be a point in making an apology to the Syrians for the unintentional damage caused when Syrian soldiers were hit during the IDF action in Lebanon. The paper writes that feelings should be soothed in all possible ways and with all possible speed. The Syrians should be convinced that there has been no change in Israel's position and that Israel does not wish to change the status quo. Furthermore, a vigorous investigation is necessary to find out how the error occurred, even if only to prevent a repetition of such unnecessary incidents in the future.

YEDI'OT AHARONOT attacks the Carter administration for having expressed support for the return of the [West Bank] mayors in the UN Security Council vote on the question. The paper writes that the defeated administration has decided to set itself free of all restraints. If, in the past, before the election, it made attempts to avoid always joining Israel's enemies, it has now even ignored that consideration; and it did not even refrain from lying.

DEPORTED MAYOR CLAIMS REINSTATEMENT PROMISED

TA192015 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2000 GMT 19 Dec 80

[Text] Fahd al-Qawasimi, one of the two deported Hebron Hills mayors, says that Shim'on Peres promised to restore the three Hebron Hills mayors to their homes if the Labor Party wins the elections. According to Al-Qawasimi, Peres promised that he would allow the deportees to return to their homes in a conversation with the Austrian Chancellor Bruno Kreisky and former West German Chancellor Willy Brandt in Madrid [during the socialist international conference in Madrid].

Labor Party Denial

TA210710 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0600 GMT 21 Dec 80

[Text] The Labor Party firmly denied the remarks by the Hebron Hills mayors that Shim'on Peres told Bruno Kreisky that if the Alignment comes to power, it will bring the pair back to Israel. These remarks were made by the Labor Party spokesman in reply to a question by our correspondent Asher Schwartz. The spokesman described these claims by the mayors as utter nonsense. He said that MK Peres had not met with the Austrian Chancellor after the deportation of the mayors and he had had no contact with him.

SIT-IN STAGED AT AN-NAJAH UNIVERSITY IN NABULUS

TA211848 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 21 Dec 80

[Text] Members of the administration at An-Najah University in Nabulus today staged a sit-in to protest the arrest of several dozen students who rioted during a demonstration about 2 weeks ago. The administration members demanded the immediate release of the students and that charges against them be dropped.

Our correspondent Pinhas 'Inbari reports that acting Nabulus Mayor Burhan Ya'ish and his deputy, Zafin al-Masri, pleaded with the military government authorities for the release of the students.

COMMUNIQUE OF UDEAC SUMMIT IN BRAZZAVILLE

AB200935 Libreville Domestic Service in French 1830 GMT 19 Dec 80

[Excerpts] The 17th summit conference of the Central African Customs and Economic Union [UDEAC], which opened yesterday in Brazzaville, ended today. Presidents Ahidjo of Cameroon, Dacko of the CAR, Sassou-Nguesso of the Congo and Bongo of Gabon this morning held a private meeting during which they made several decisions to improve the economic development of our subregion. [passage indistinct]

The closing session was marked by the publication of a final communique as well as the closing address of the outgoing UDEAC chairman, President Denis Sassou-Nguesso. Following is the final communique read by UDEAC Secretary General Vincent Efon:

[Begin recording] The Council of the UDEAC heads of state met in Brazzaville from 18 to 19 December 1980 under the chairmanship of His Excellency Col Denis Sassou-Nguesso, chairman of the Central Committee of the Congolese Labor Party, president of the republic, head of state and government and current chairman of the UDEAC Council of heads of state. The council admitted to the meeting as an observer a Chadian Government delegation led by His Excellency Col Kamougue Wadal Abdel Kader, vice president of the Transitional National Union Government of Chad who represented his head of state. His Excellency Col Kamougue Wadal Abdel Kader expressed Chad's desire to return to the UDEAC and proposed that steps be taken to this effect. [applause]

The council adopted all the documents submitted to it by the steering committee and aimed at strengthening the solidarity and cooperation among the member states and further promoting cooperation with the specialized international organizations so as to ensure more effective action. [passage indistinct] The meeting took place in the fraternal atmosphere which has always characterized the meetings of UDEAC heads of state. The chairmanship of the union for the year 1981 will be entrusted to His Excellency El-Hadj Omar Bongo, president of the Republic of Gabon. [applause]

Outside the meeting,the heads of state, who were joined by the first state commissioner of Zaire who represented President Mobutu, listened to a report on the situation now prevailing in Chad. This report was presented by His Excellency Col Kamougie Wadal Abdel Kadel, who solemnly declared that Chad will never (?interfere in the internal affairs) of the neighboring states in general and of the Central African states in particular. [applause] The heads of state reaffirmed their support for the Lagos and Lome accords and called for their full implementation [words indistinct]. They reaffirmed their confidence in the Transitional National Union Government and declared their support for all the initiatives taken by the OAU and certain African heads of state to solve the Chad problem. The heads of state called on the Transitional National Union Government to work for true national reconciliation in Chad and appealed to all countries not to interfere in any way in Chad's internal and external affairs.

The next meeting of the UDEAC Council of heads of state will take place in Libreville in December 1981. Issued in Brazzaville on 19 December 1980.

UGANDA

CABINET SWORN IN; MORE MINISTERS APPOINTED

LD181918 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1400 GMT 18 Dec 80 EA

[Text] President Milton Obote has warned members of the cabinet that the work ahead of them is difficult and demands all their efforts. The president, who was swearing in the vice-president, Mr Paulo Muwanga, and other cabinet ministers at State House, Entebbe, wished them the best of luck in their duties.

Meanwhile, President Milton Obote has appointed five more ministers.

The former deputy minister of local administration, Mr Edward Rurangaranga, has been appointed minister of state, office of the prime minister;

The former deputy minister of industry, Mr Anthony Butele--minister of labor;

The former minister of finance and administrations in the defunct East African Community, Mr Shafiq Arain--minister without portfolio, president's office;

Mr (Joel) Omara-Aliro--Minister of commerce;

and Dr John Joseph Otim--minister of works.

Obote Is Interim Finance Minister

LD182237 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 18 Dec 80

[Text] It has been announced from the State House, Entebbe, that the president has himself assumed the portfolio of the minister of finance until a substantive minister is appointed. It was announced from State House, Entebbe, that the president, Dr A. Milton Obote, has made the following appointment:

Chief whip, minister of state in the prime minister's office, Mr W. (Osinde Oluwor).

ELECTORAL GROUP REGAINS RIGHT TO DECLARE RESULTS

LD211456 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1000 GMT 21 Dec 80 EA

[Text] The government has published a proclamation reverting the powers of declaring the results of the general elections to the Electoral Commission and the returning officers. The proclamation, which was made by the chairman of the Military Commission, Mr Paulo Muwanga, on 11 December 1980, deleted section three of the proclamation published on 10 December giving the power of declaring the results of the December 1980 general elections to the National Assembly to the chairman of the Military Commission.

NEW PRIME MINISTER APPEALS FOR COOPERATION

LD211648 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1400 GMT 21 Dec 80 EA

[Excerpt] The prime minister of Uganda, Mr Otema Alimadi, has assured all Ugandans that the fruits of their votes that enabled the Uganda People's Congress [UPC] to form the government will be shared equally by them and those in Parliament. Addressing his first rally in Gulu after his appointment to the premiership, Mr Otema said the UPC government which has been formed following its victory in the recent general elections was not a government for UPC supporters alone but for every Ugandan, irrespective of his political affiliation. He appealed to all Ugandans to cooperate with the government in power in order to achieve the country's economic and social goals.

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

TESTIMONY AT TRIAL OF BOKASSA IN ABSENTIA REPORTED

AB201255 Paris AFP in English 1230 GMT 20 Dec 80

[Text] Bangui, Dec. 20 (AFP)--Deposed Central African Emperor Bikassa ordered 20 million dollars taken from a state price stabilization fund, without Finance Ministry approval, to help pay for his coronation in 1977, according to testimony today at his trial in absentia.

Other testimony said that he sold a DC-4 airplane given to the country by France for 300,000 dollars and pocketed the money.

The former monarch, who lives in exile in Ivory Coast, is being tried here on charges ranging from murder to cannibalism to embezzlement of public funds. The trial is in its second day.

Several former Bokassa associates testified that he had systematically plundered the national treasury between 1975 and 1979, when he was overthrown, notably to meet expenses of the imperial coronation in 1977.

The airplane incident happened in 1975 or 1976, witnesses said. The DC-4, which had been given to the Central African Republic by Charles de Gaulle in 1968, was said to have been sold to the national air force, although technically the state already owned it.

Much of the testimony of close Bokassa associates was confirmed by Ambroise Assembele, former minister of state for defense.

Other testimony touched on the repression by security forces of demonstration that led to two massacres of students and schoolchildren in Bangui in January and April, 1979. Bokassa's ouster in September of that year followed a report from a commission of African jurists that he had almost certainly taken personal part in the massacres.

CHAD

GOUKOUNI SEES NO REASON FOR LAGOS CONFERENCE

AB211130 Paris AFP in English 0816 GMT 21 Dec 80

[Excerpts] Ndjamena, Dec. 21 (AFP)--Chadian President Goukouni Oueddei, victorious with Libya's help in the nine-month civil war, says he sees no reason for the multi-party conference on Chad that is scheduled in Lagos on Tuesday. In an interview with the Cameroon TRIBUNE newspaper, carried here yesterday by the CHADIAN NEWS AGENCY, Mr. Goukouni said the calling of a conference was nonsense.

Meanwhile, Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi was also quoted as saying he was against a conference, at which a Libyan withdrawal from Chad would certainly be discussed, dimming further the meeting's chance of success.

The Sudanese news agency, in Khartoum, quoted Col. al-Qadhdhafi as telling Sudanese President Ja'far Numayri in a message that Chad is now enjoying peace and stability. But other African states, fearful of Libya's future intentions both in Chad and toward them, have seen the conference as a forum for discussing a withdrawal of the Libyan troops reportedly in Chad (estimates run as high as 6,500), and the dispatch of an inter-African peacekeeping force, possibly with United Nations support.

Along this line, General Numayri replied to Col. al-Qadhdhafi that order would be established in Chad only after the convening of the Lagos conference. The Sudanese leader, whose country has a long western border with Chad, across which arms reportedly passed to Mr. Habre during the war, said that peace will not prevail unless Libyan troops are withdrawn from that sister nation (Chad), according to the news agency.

In his interview with the newspaper in neighboring Cameroon, Mr. Goukouni had repeated the denial--heard from him and the Libyans--that Libyan troops were in Chad. He said there were only a few technicians. He told his African brothers that Chad represented no danger for them, and said that Africa seemed to have been caught in the trap of the French Government, which puts out that Chad is being swallowed by Libya and that France must thus protect the threatened region. Mr. Goukouni said, however, that it would be difficult for Chad to break with France, the former colonial power, and that without French cooperation, it will be hard for us to rebuild Chad.

The Lagos meeting, under Organization of African Unity auspices, is supposed to include representatives of Sudan, Libya, Central African Republic, Cameroon, Niger, Sierra Leone, Guinea, Benin, Congo, Senegal, and Nigeria.

FROLINAT LEADER STRESSES DANGER FROM LIBYAN TROOPS

AB191625 Paris AFP in French 1040 GMT 19 Dec 80

[Text] Paris, 18 Dec (AFP)--The historic leader of the Chadian National Liberation Front,(FROLINAT), Dr Abba Siddick, said on Thursday in Paris that the African countries which are unaware of the direct danger of the Libyan expenditionary troops based in Chad will be destroyed.

Mr Abba Siddick, the incumbent minister of higher education of the GUNT, [Transitional National Union Government], declared that the African states which believe Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi poses no danger, are deceiving themselves and those who are burying their heads in the sand will be destroyed.

As a matter of fact, he said, I believe that in the present context Libya, intoxicated with its victory in Chad, which counterbalances its stinging defeat in Uganda, will take the opportunity of this advantageous situation to increase its influence.

Mr Abba Siddick went on saying that no sub-Saharan country has an army that equals the troops which conquered Ndjamena and which now has a score of planes, 200 tanks and several thousand well-equipped soldiers. Dr Abba Siddick further stressed the need for the strict implementation of the Lagos accords if peace is really to return to Chad.

For the cease-fire to be effective, he said, the conference of Lagos (Nigeria) must realize two essential clauses; these are the immediate dispatch of neutral troops of the OAU (Organization of African Unity) or of the United Nations to occupy the towns of Ndjamena, Abeche (east), Faya (north) and Moundou (south), which were mentioned in the Lagos accords, and the demilitarization of the capital along with the disarming of the combatants and the seizure of their arms.

According to Dr Abba Siddick, as long as the Libyan expeditionary troops will not withdraw from Chad no peace will be possible. The conference scheduled to take place in the Nigerian capital must take this point into account and condemn the Libyan invasion which is a serious violation of both the Lagos accords and the OAU Charter. So, the conference can only call for the total withdrawal of the Libyan army from Chad, he said.

Mr Abba Siddick added that the occupation of Ndjamena is not a military solution to the Chadian conflict, for the losers of urban fighting can at any time resume guerilla fighting.

He finally pledged the willingness of the original FROLINAT, of which he is the leader, to attend any conference aimed at restoring peace in Chad.

NIGERIA

HABRE TO REPRESENT FAN AT CONFERENCE ON CHAD

AB192054 Paris AFP in French 1803 GMT 19 Dec 80

[Text] Dakar, 19 Dec (AFP)--The Armed Forces of the North (FAN) will be represented by their leader, Mr Hissein Habre, at the Lagos (Nigeria) peace conference on Chad. This was announced by Mr Michal Froud, the FAN deputy commissioner for information. In an interview with the Dakar Daily LE SOLEIL, Mr Froud pointed out that the FAN would like the Lagos conference to ask Libya straight out to withdraw its troops from the Chadian territory, where its presence has only been achieved by force. The FAN would also like all parties involved to be heard so that a solution could be reached on an unequivocal, sound and frank basis.

Mr Froud also stated that the fact that Mr Hissein Habre signed the Lome cease-fire agreement was not a capitulation. He emphasized that the FAN had previously received guarantees from the signatory heads of state.

In another development, he affirmed that the FAN, which does not receive any military assistance from any country, is currently in touch with Egypt and Sudan. He added that the FAN will request assistance from peace-loving African countries. Libya has attacked us. We are now engaged in legitimate self-defense, he said.

CHADIAN MINISTER ASKS FRENCH RECOVERY AID

AB220905 Paris AFP in French 1414 GMT 21 Dec 80

[Text] Lome, 21 Dec (AFP)--France should help Chad to recover from the civil war, the Chadian minister of agriculture of the Transitional National Union Government (GUNT), Mr Naimbaye Lossimian stated in Lome Saturday night. France is unaware of the role she had to play in Chad and should avoid adding fuel to the fire with unreasonable remarks, the minister declared in a statement to AFP in Lome where he made a 24-hour stopover. Mr Naimbaye was bearing a message from the president of the GUNT, Mr Goukouni Oueddei, now controling the Chadian capital, Ndjamena, to the Togolese head of state, Mr Gnassingbe Eyadema, president of the OAU subcommittee on Chad. The subcommittee had drawn up the text of a cease-fire agreement recently signed by the Chadian protagonists.

Chad is urgently in need of medicine and food, and the GUNT is ready to examine with all friendly countries the solutions for the reconstruction of the country, he stressed.

The Libyan aid given to Chad, Mr Naimbaye stated, has become a topical issue and everybody should rest assured that Chad will never serve as a base for the destabilization of other African countries.

The Libyan Government was the only one who responded to an appeal from the GUNT to cope with a rebellion which is powerfully armed from outside, he added. The war is now over, Mr Naimbaye continued. and it is for the Chadian Government to settle any problems with the Libyans on a state to state basis, should there be any problems.

Concerning the Lagos conference, which should meet on Tuesday, Mr Naimbaye felt that there can no longer be a question of Chadian factions. Since there is no more rebellion, political problems should be settled within the framework of Mr Goukouni's reconciliation proposals and there is no reason for Mr Hissein Habre to be included in that framework whatsoever, for he no longer represents anything, he stressed.

Mr Habre no longer has any conditions to put forward, he again added. There is a Chadian Government, GUNT, and it is its duty to find all solutions for national reconciliation.

ANGOLA

S. AFRICAN MINISTER'S 19 DEC REPLY CONDEMNED

AB211327 Paris AFP in French 1201 GMT 21 Dec 80

[Text] Luanda, 21 Dec (AFP)--In a communique issued in Luanda, the Angolan Office of Political Education, Propaganda and Information [DEPPI], described as ridiculous and delirious the recent declarations of South Africa Defense Minister Gen Magnus Malan in reply to Angola's allegations that South African troops have attacked its territory.

When President Jose Eduardo dos Santos accused South Africa of having killed some 1,800 people during attacks carried out against Angola between 1978 and 1980, General Malan answered last Friday that President dos Santos was trying to blame South Africa for his own failure in solving the problem of civil war in his country.

The DEPPI wonders how General Malan can refer to civil war among Angolans when the last South African aggressions against Angola were carried out by South African planes and tanks.

SOUTH AFRICA

DEFENSE MINISTER DENOUNCES DOS SANTOS ACCUSATION

LD191200 Johannesburg International Service in English 1100 GMT 19 Dec 80

[Text] President dos Santos of Angola is blaming South Africa again for his inability to cope with his own civil war situation. This has been said in Pretoria by the minister of defense, Gen Magnus Malan. He was commenting on a statement by President dos Santos yesterday accusing South African of killing nearly 2,000 people in Angola and causing damage running into billions of rand in military attacks against his country during the past 3 years.

General Malan referred to the astronomical figures and said that the president had conveniently made no mention of the civil war in Angola. He said that the president had given the impression that he was blaming South Africa for effective UNITA action against his Marxist regime. It was learned that UNITA was still controlling almost two-thirds of the rural areas of Angola. General Malan said President dos Santos should acknowledge that to the world and stop pretending that he was in control of his own country while hiding his inefficiency in this regard behind South Africa.

The minister said Angola had also recently blamed South African for the loss of a Russian aircraft shot down by UNITA. The aircraft had been brought down in an area where South Africa had not even carried out operations against SWAPO and where Cubans were unsuccessfully deployed against UNITA.

General Malan rejected outright allegations by President dos Santos that South Africa had deliberately killed any Angolan. During all operation in Angola the South African security forces had deliberately tried to avoid contact with Angolan government forces. This had not succeeded on occasions because they were supporting SWAPO terrorists.